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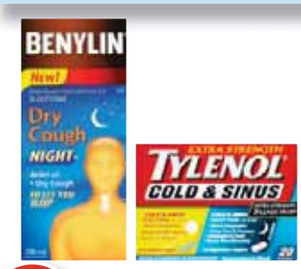

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PINK SAYS TROUBLED LOVE LIFE MADE HER WOMAN OF THE YEAR PAGE 40

'Female, very polite, non-white'

So white is the standard? That police description may bring change to how police can label suspects PAGE 2

Leafs tough enough with no Phaneuf?

Toronto heads to St. Louis without its captain, hoping to best Blues and end losing streak HEAD TO METRONEWS.CA

North Korea puts leader's uncle to death

Long considered the No. 2 power in the country, Jang Song Thaek executed for attempting a coup PAGE 18

MANDELA'S FINAL STOP

A Xhosa woman poses on a rock overlooking the village of Qunu on Thursday. Former South African president Nelson Mandela will be buried Sunday in Qunu in the Eastern Cape province, where he spent his childhood. See story, page 26. DAN KITWOOD/GETTY IMAGES

TTC: Terminally Tight on Cash

'Enough's enough.'
Chief executive says he cannot back down from requesting subsidy hike

Breaking point

"To me, this is a defining moment for the TTC. This budget will mean, do we stand still — or worse, slide back — or do we move forward?"
TTC chief executive Andy Byford

Record ridership means the TTC needs both a 5-cent fare hike Jan. 1 plus a $17-million increase in its operating subsidy from city council, the city's budget committee was told Thursday.

The subsidy increase is needed just to accommodate ridership growth and won't mean vehicles will be any less crowded in 2014, said TTC chief executive Andy Byford.

Fares pay for 73 per cent of operating costs while the city supplies 27 per cent, which last year came to $411 million or 78 cents a ride — lower than the subsidy in other North American cities, the TTC says.

With ridership projected to increase to 540 million rides from 526 million, the TTC has requested $428 million from council, which will make its decision next month.

Byford said the subsidy remained at $411 million this year and last, after being cut from $429 million in 2011.

"Enough's enough," Byford told reporters. "With a predicted 2.3 per cent rise in customer numbers over the next year, we have to drive up that subsidy," Byford said.

Coun. Doug Ford, vice-chair of budget, said the transit system has too many managers.

"Something's broken," Ford said. "I believe we need more front-line workers."

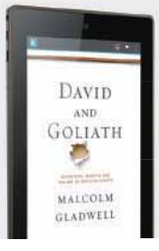
Byford responded that over three budgets, 2012, 2013 and the proposed deal for 2014, the TTC will have added 647 front-line positions and deleted 214 management positions.

"I think my record stands for itself," he said. "My policy is to put more people on the front line and less people in back offices.

"I'm not going to back down on the need for additional subsidy. I think it's unfair to increase fares by any more than we've proposed."

The 5-cent Jan. 1 fare hike will bring the cost of a token to $2.70 from $2.65. The cash fare will stay at $3.

TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE



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NEWS 1

Student's objection to racial description may bring change

'Non-white'. Police agree that Waterloo woman's complaint is an issue that needs improvement

JESSICA SMITH CROSS
jessica.smithcross@metronews.ca

A woman's failure to stop at a red light one icy day may spark some change in the way police across Canada describe people by ethnicity.

Law student Sarah Rana returned home to the Kitchener-Waterloo area last August to fight a traffic infraction, preparing to argue that the icy road made it impossible for her to stop, and she received a disclosure package, which included the officer's notes about her.

"In the notes (the officer) wrote, 'Female, very polite, non-white,'" said Rana. "The fact that she wrote 'non-white' was something that really struck me as unnecessary, irrelevant — I found it very offensive."

"Non-white" was the only physical description of Rana included in the officer's notes, she said.

When Rana returned home, she wrote a letter to the mayor of Waterloo, the Waterloo police and the Ontario Ombudsman.

"To note that an individual is non-white is to construct white as the norm and denies the individual labelled access to the normative standard. It creates a sub-standard class of which those who do not meet the white standard are denied acceptance," she wrote.

Waterloo Regional Police Service Deputy Chief Stephen Beckett contacted her and agreed it was a problem.

"We're doing our best to resolve the issue and we certainly respect her and her position," he told Metro later in an interview.

The officer had looked Rana up in the national Canadian Police Information Centre (CPIC) database, and put its "non-white" description of her in her notes, he said.

According to Beckett, one version of the CPIC system has officers enter a person as white or non-white, then provide extra details of the racial description in a "comments section" of the database.

"That further outraged me, said Rana. "How could something like that still exist?"

Waterloo has already implemented some improvements to its local records-management system to include more specific, sensitive descriptors of people for officers to choose from, said Beckett.

"But they don't always cover everything, so we have an 'other' category as well," he said. "We no longer use the term 'non-white.'"

Rana's complaint helped bring that to the force's attention and Beckett is working with other groups to make a national change, he said. The National Police Information Services Advisory Board will be discussing the issue in January, and is considering using a fuller list of more sensitive racial and religious descriptors for officers to choose from.

"It does get very challenging for what people do want to be described as," he said.

Part of the difficulty is officers don't routinely ask people about their ethnicity.

Sometimes race or religion is relevant to an investigation, such as in a hate-crime, said Beckett. In routine interactions with the public, an officer may try to make an observation about a person and record that. In other cases, they are relying on a potentially inaccurate witness description of the suspect.

As for Rana's case, being of South Asian descent had nothing to do with the red-light incident.

The only reason the officer would have included anything about her ethnicity in her notes was as part of Rana's appearance, which would only be needed if Rana would later argue she wasn't actually the person driving the car, Beckett said.

Beckett could not say why any other details — such as her height or eye colour — weren't mentioned in the notes.

"Federal systems are more difficult to change than local systems," he said. "But I'm hoping in January we'll be able to fix this."

Sarah Rana's objection to ethnic classification got the attention of police. CONTRIB-

Quoted

"... It creates a substandard class of which those who do not meet the white standard are denied acceptance." Law student Sarah Rana

New system

Local police services use different records management systems. For instance, the Toronto Police Service began using a new system called Versadex last month and is currently studying what the best descriptors are to give to officers to use, said spokesperson Meaghan Gray.

Zoo says polar bear cub is 'making progress'

A shot of the baby bear from the Toronto Zoo website. SCREENSHOT

The lone surviving cub born to a Toronto Zoo polar bear is "making progress," according to zoo officials, after being in a wildlife intensive care unit since November.

The male cub was one of three born Nov. 9 to Aurora, one of two female bears at the zoo. But two days later, though Aurora had been deemed to have strong enough maternal instincts, staff discovered that two of the male cubs had died. The cub that survived was not moving strongly and was sent to be examined.

In a statement released Thursday, zoo officials confirmed the cub has made progress after medical measures were taken, including regular monitoring of his temperature and feeding him a special formula to build up his strength.

He has been seen rolling over and crawling at intervals since treatment began. His eyes remain closed.

Staff say the cub has become "more active and mobile, and is asserting his personality by growling and calling to staff."

Last year, three underdeveloped cubs born to the bear, then 11 years old, all died, despite apparent improvement in Aurora's mothering instincts.

"The fact that Aurora was doing everything right this time is a huge step in the right direction," Maria Franke, curator of mammals at the zoo, said in a press release at the time.

The Toronto Zoo says it has been working with Polar Bears International, Parks Canada and the North American Species Survival Plan to provide polar bear education, research and conservation efforts in the wild. TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE

Not-so-motherly love

Aurora does not have a stellar track record as a mother. Two years ago, she gave birth to three cubs, only to reject them and attack the litter the day after they were born.

- One was killed instantly and another died shortly after. The surviving bear was raised by zookeepers and in January was moved to Winnipeg's Assiniboine Park Zoo.

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Wynne set to stake her future on transit

Tough decisions. 'Our plan for funding transit — including the revenue stream — will be part of the budget in 2014,' says premier

Premier Kathleen Wynne says she's prepared to let her political fortunes rise or fall on the minority Liberal government's transit strategy.

"I expect I will be campaigning on very tough decisions and I'm prepared to do that because I really believe that that is what's expected of government," she told Torstar News Service Thursday, adding her government's final decision on how to pay for new subways, streetcars and buses will be in the spring budget.

"I am determined that we're going to build transit and I'm also determined that we're not going to — whatever the revenue tool is — ask people outside of the GTA to pay for transit within the GTA," Wynne said in an interview.

The province's transit-funding advisory panel earlier called for a three-cents-a-litre gas tax increase in the first year, costing drivers about $80 a year more, adding one cent a year to a maximum of 10 cents, a 0.5 per cent corporate income tax increase and $80 million in HST redirected to transit building.

"We're going to have to make some difficult decisions. I'm not ruling anything out today," she said.

TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE

Premier Kathleen Wynne says people outside of the GTA should not pay for transit within the GTA. RICHARD J. BRENNAN/TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE

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Report. Disabled Ontarians increasingly dependent on welfare

From its origins in the 1960s as the disability benefit of last resort, the Ontario Disability Support Program has become the only financial assistance available for a growing number of Ontarians, says a new report on the "welfareization" of incomes for the disabled.

Due to the rise of part-time, contract and other forms of non-standard work, more and more Ontarians who become sick, injured or disabled no longer qualify for employment insurance sickness benefits, workers' compensation or workplace disability benefits, says the Metcalf Foundation report being released Friday.

Of almost 740,000 Ontarians who rely on disability benefits to survive, up to 42 per cent receive Ontario Disability Support Program (ODSP) cheques, making it the largest of eight disability income programs available in the province, says social-policy expert John Stapleton, the report's author.

The disability program's strict limits on personal assets, outside income and other support condemns recipients to poverty and the stigma that surrounds social assistance, the report notes. A single person on ODSP is eligible to receive a maximum of just $1,086 per month.

"It was never the intent that a so-called last-resort program like social assistance would be the largest component of our disability income system," Stapleton says.

"ODSP should be the residual program that is there when you fall through the cracks, and now it's the biggest single program by far."

TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE

Bear in mind

- Any provincial changes to ODSP — or attempt to design a new disability income program — must take this larger context into account, the report warns.
- Canada Pension Plan Disability (CPP-Disability) and Workplace Safety and Insurance Board (WSIB) benefits each cover only about 20 per cent of claimants, Stapleton says.

Televised comments

Reporter slaps Rob Ford with libel notice

Mayor Rob Ford was slapped with a libel notice late Thursday for televised comments he made about a reporter, who said the remarks amounted to an accusation of pedophilia.

Toronto Star reporter Daniel Dale would not comment on his suit that also names Vision TV, which aired the Ford interview, saying an article he wrote would have to stand.

"I'm asking Ford to immediately retract the false insinuation that I am a pedophile. I am also serving Vision TV, which twice broadcast Ford's vile and defamatory remarks ... even though their interview was filmed days before it aired."

The notice also calls for Vision TV to apologize.

Ford said a day after the interview that he stood by "every word." He left city hall Thursday evening without saying anything.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

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Paris Travel Feb 19 - Mar 5/fi/fi	$859	$2399
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Amsterdam Court

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Costa Rica Flights + 7-Day Car $779

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London Flights + 6 Nights $1249

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tico.ca

CBC aired the footage Wednesday night showing Coun. Doug Ford handing out $20 bills. Twitter was quick to react.

STEVE RUSSELL/TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE

Doug Ford scolded for handing out $20s at TCHC building

'Nauseous.' While councillors express disgust and contempt, Ford didn't break any law or code of conduct, says law expert

Coun. Doug Ford's trip to a Toronto Community Housing complex to hand out presents to kids and $20 bills to adults is coming under fire from critics on council.

"People come to Canada to get away from this," said Coun. Gord Perks, a frequent detractor of the councillor and his brother, Mayor Rob Ford.

The CBC aired the footage on its newscast Wednesday night. It shows councillor Ford in a room filled with kids and adults, holding a stack of $20 bills. In the video he peels off bills and hands them out to the crowd. Perks said when he saw the footage last night he "literally became nauseous."

Other councillors chimed in on Twitter as word about the incident spread. "This is how rich people buy votes," tweeted Coun. Joe Mihevc.

But while it doesn't pass the smell test for some, the behaviour isn't against the law or the councillors' code of conduct, according to municipal law experts.

Ron Kanter, a municipal lawyer with Macdonald Sager Manis LLP, said that if the handout happened closer to election time, and councillor Ford was running, it may cause problems.

Ford said last week that he would not run again for city council, but has previously expressed a desire to run for provincial office.

In an interview with the Globe and Mail, he likened handing out twenties to getting Tim Hortons gift certificates. He told the Globe he did not have time to go to Tim Hortons, so just gave out the bills.

The incident marks the second time in a week that the councillor has been criticized for throwing around the Ford family's personal wealth in the political arena. Ford, who often rails against "elites," is an executive at Deco Labels & Tags — a Ford family owned company with annual sales estimated at $100 million.

Last week the councillor reiterated a pledge to personally donate $5,000 to 10 parks around the city, for a total of $50,000. TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE

Quoted

"As unusual as it is, I'm not aware of anything that would make it illegal."

Ron Kanter, lawyer

Weston's old chain of office is missing

Though it hasn't graced the chest of a chief magistrate in close to a half century, history buffs in Weston are aghast that their former town's mayoral chain of office is missing.

The alarm was raised Dec. 4, when staff at the neighbourhood's library — historic in its own right and celebrating its centenary in 2014 — noticed the display case holding the chain had disappeared from its position on the wall. Police have been called, employees questioned and storerooms searched, yet no trace of the chain has been discovered, according to Toronto Public Library spokesperson Anna-Maria Critchley.

"I don't suppose the monetary value is very great, but the historic value is enormous, as far as our community is concerned," said Mary Louise Ashbourne, 80, president of the Weston Historical Society whose uncle, George Bull, wore the chain as the town's mayor from 1961 to 1964.

TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE

The mayoral chain of office of the former Town of Weston. CONTRIBUTED

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IMPROVING YOUR TTC EXPERIENCE NOW INCLUDES FREE WI-FI AT TWO SUBWAY STATIONS

ANDY BYFORD
CEO
TORONTO TRANSIT COMMISSION

Earlier this week, the TTC officially launched its new, free Wi-Fi service at Bloor-Yonge and St George stations.

Installation of Wi-Fi at two stations is one of our 2013 Customer Charter promises and we intend to progressively equip the remaining stations over the next two years. Our supplier, BAI Canada, will pay the TTC $25 million over the course of a 20-year contract, money that will be plowed back into improving your transit service.

The intention is to ultimately offer cell service, as well as Wi-Fi, as that is what customer feedback indicates. BAI Canada is actively talking to cell carriers to make this a reality.

So far, users of the Wi-Fi service have pronounced themselves very satisfied with the speed and quality of the connection. I see big, direct benefits for the TTC, too, as having our stations equipped with Wi-Fi will radically improve our ability to provide fast, quality service information, both direct to your phone or tablet, or via an IT-equipped member of staff.

It's all part of our modernization program and our push to improve customer information. We haven't forgotten the surface network either. In the budget that I presented to City Council's Budget Committee yesterday, we made the case for capital funding to replace the 1970s-generation communication equipment on buses and streetcars – something that is long overdue.

With a whole new suite of commitments about to be launched for the 2014 Customer Charter, we are well on the road to modernizing the TTC.

FREE WI-FI NOW AVAILABLE AT ST GEORGE & BLOOR-YONGE STATIONS

This week, the TTC and BAI Canada officially launched free Wi-Fi service at St George and Bloor-Yonge stations. With free Wi-Fi, customers can access the internet including email and social media. Accessing Wi-Fi is as easy as **1-2-3**:

1) In your Wi-Fi settings, select TConnect
2) Open an Internet browser to access the welcome screen
3) Click "next"

If you have questions or difficulty accessing the Wi-Fi network please email info@TConnect.ca or call 416-777-WiFi (9434).

YOU ASKED US...

What does "506 'station name', 506 'station name', 506 'station name' please call control" mean and why does it happen so often?

I have had this question for a very long time now. I hope you are willing to answer it.

Cheers,
Monica

Hi Monica,

Great question. When you hear, "506 Greenwood, 506 Greenwood, please call control," it means that a TTC staff member has requested the assistance of a janitor. The number affiliated with the announcement determines who the call is for, e.g., 504 for the janitor foreperson, 506 for the day janitor, 505 for the night janitor and 508 for the special cleaning crew. The station name represents the location of the employee. For example, when Transit Control announces "506 Greenwood," the day janitor for Greenwood and adjacent stations calls the Control Centre to determine what assistance is required.

• Do you have a question for the TTC? Send an email to AskTTC@metronews.ca

EMPLOYEE PROFILE

Name:
Daniel Kowbell

Position:
Station Collector

Years of Service:
29

With new innovations, equipment and a progressive customer first based philosophy, my career with the TTC will end as it began, with great enthusiasm and high expectations for our transit road ahead. The future for transit in Toronto has never looked as promising as our front-line employees, support staff and TTC management strive to deliver to this city the very best in what the TTC has to offer: safe and reliable service. Kudos to all TTC employees who endeavour to accomplish this challenging task.

EVENTS

DEC. 13 & 18:

- **Toronto Raptors at Air Canada Centre.** Subway to Union Station.

DEC. 14, 17 & 19:

- **Toronto Maple Leafs at Air Canada Centre.** Subway to Union Station.

DEC. 15:

- **Toronto Marlies at Ricoh Coliseum.** 511 Bathurst streetcar. For an accessible connection, 509 Harbourfront bus to Exhibition Place.
- **Rod Stewart at Air Canada Centre.** Subway to Union Station.

DEC. 16:

- **Beyoncé at Air Canada Centre.** Subway to Union Station.

SERVICE CHANGES

- **501/301 Queen** and **508 Lake Shore** streetcars turning back east at Humber Loop, with replacement buses operating on Lake Shore between Humber Loop and Long Branch Loop diverting via Park Lawn and The Queensway until Dec. 22 due to platform work.

THE KINDER WAY

During rush hour, subway trains arrive every 2-3 minutes, and about every 5 minutes at other times. Please don't rush or hold train doors – another train will be along shortly.

RECYCLE

Please keep the TTC litter-free. Recycle your reading materials in any station or platform receptacle.

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To receive real-time email notices of all major service disruptions, register for personalized TTC e-Services at www.ttc.ca

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Adopted son

Search for boy turns up another 'Dief' link

Ruthann Malmgren, now of Rockyford, Alta., had also been looking for Ed Thorne on behalf of her mother, Mary Rosa LaMarche, who years earlier had given him up for adoption.

LaMarche had been Diefenbaker's housekeeper in Prince Albert, Sask., in the late 1930s, Malmgren said.

A locket belonging to Mary Rosa LaMarche shows a photograph of her baby Ed Thorne and herself. CONTRIBUTED/THE CANADIAN PRESS

At the time, Diefenbaker was having marital difficulties, according to a biography of his first wife. His eye apparently rested on his housekeeper.

In 1938, LaMarche fell pregnant and was promptly sent to Bethany Home in Saskatoon. Little John was born in February 1939. His birth certificate did not list a father.

Malmgren, 70, remembers her dad would say the baby was Diefenbaker's. He would be angry his wife wore a locket with photos of herself and the infant.

The baby, John Eric LaMarche, was adopted and renamed Edward Thorne.

Malmgren tracked Thorne down to Kamloops and, through him, connected with Stan Goertzen around 2003. She told him his biological father, Ed Thorne, was Diefenbaker's son. THE CANADIAN PRESS

Stan Goertzen, centre, stands with his brothers Lawrence, left, and Darrell in this family photo. The Saskatchewan siblings believe they are grandsons of former prime minister John Diefenbaker. CONTRIBUTED/THE CANADIAN PRESS

'Childless' Diefenbaker sired 2 boys?

Brothers' quest to uncover their roots. Labyrinthine tale of adoptions, broken and reconstituted families turned up 'Dief' as a common thread

Twice-married former Canadian prime minister John Diefenbaker — always believed to have been childless — may have fathered not one but two sons, leaving progeny scattered across the country, The Canadian Press has learned.

About 10 years ago, in Western Canada, three Goertzen siblings began searching for their biological father, Ed Thorne, who had split from their mom four decades earlier.

Stan Goertzen, 52, a retired member of the Saskatoon police service, found Thorne in Kamloops, B.C. He made a startling discovery — that Thorne, who died soon after, had been adopted and renamed Edward Thorne. His name at birth was John Eric LaMarche, and his mother was Diefenbaker's housekeeper Mary Rosa LaMarche.

Content with having found their dad, the Goertzens didn't give the apparent connection to Canada's 13th prime minister much further thought.

One question, however, nagged at the youngest Goertzen brother, Lawrence, who long had doubts about whether Thorne really was his biological father.

Enter George Dryden, 45, who grew up in a Toronto family of privilege only to discover a few years ago that the man who raised him — prominent federal Liberal Gordon Dryden — was not his father.

That revelation prompted Dryden to go on a well-publicized quest to confirm long-time family whispers: that he was the product of an affair between his mother, Mary Lou Dryden, and Diefenbaker, a known confidante.

Dryden, who bears a strong resemblance to the former Conservative prime minister, believes previous genetic matching with a known Diefenbaker relative proved the family connection to his satisfaction.

Lawrence Goertzen, 48, contacted George Dryden and they both sent body samples to a DNA lab, together with Stan Goertzen. The result this month stunned them.

"We're talking about 99.99 per cent probability that they are related," said Kyle Tsui at Toronto-based Accu-Metrics, which did the tests. "This is the expected result for an uncle-nephew relationship." THE CANADIAN PRESS

Diefenbabies

"I got a feeling there might be Diefenbabies running around all over the place."

George Dryden, who called DNA tests that showed a 99.99 per cent probability that he and the Goertzens are related "a very nice surprise, an early Christmas present."

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* Sale in effect only on December 13, 2013 at all Holt Renfrew stores except Winnipeg and hr2 only from 5pm to 9pm in stores located in the province of Quebec and 6pm to 12am at all other participating Holt Renfrew stores. Some restrictions apply. While quantities last. Styles, sizes and quantities are limited and vary by store. Cannot be combined with any other promotion. No price adjustments on previous purchases.

† No purchase necessary, one entry per person. Local Contests are open to legal residents of the province in which the Participating store is located. National contest is open to legal residents of Canada. Must be of the age of majority in your province of residence to enter. Contest ends on December 13, 2013 at 9pm in the province of Quebec and 11:59pm local time in Ontario, Alberta and British Columbia. There is a total of 6586 prizes available to be won with 922 prizes available to be won in Quebec; 3168 in Ontario; 1307 in Alberta; 1189 in Vancouver and 1 prize nationally. Participating Stores are in Toronto Bloor Street, Yorkdale, Sherway, Ottawa, Montreal, Quebec City, Edmonton, Calgary and Vancouver. The odds of winning depend on the number of candy canes handed out during the Contest Period. Mathematical skill testing question required. Full rules in store and on http://www.holtrenfrew.com/MagentaMadness.

NSA leaks : A when's when

June 5-6

Glenn Greenwald stories in The Guardian reveal a secret court order enabling U.S. National Security Agency to spy on Verizon calls and the NSA's PRISM program that monitored Apple, Facebook and Google user data.

June 9

Edward Snowden goes public as the source of the leaks.

Aug. 29

Washington Post reveals 178-page, $52.6 billion fiscal 2013 "black budget" for the U.S. National Intelligence Program, which employs 107,035 people.

Dec. 4

Washington Post reports NSA is gathering 5 billion records daily about mobile phone locations around the world.

A what's what of who's watching who

Watch out. Your email server, credit card company and others are looking at your info — but should you be worried?

BOB MACKIN
Metro in Vancouver

Documents leaked by whistleblower Edward Snowden have revealed how the U.S. government is tracking mobile phone locations, monitoring email and even infiltrating video game networks.

The U.S. is not alone in spying on citizens. A multitude of governments and businesses in Canada track a variety of ways that concern security experts and civil libertarians.

"We're able to see how many mundane and personal aspects of life are recorded and retained." said Adam Molnar, a postdoctoral fellow in Queen's University's Surveillance Studies Centre.

Technology is such that your daily "digital footprints" can be recorded. The danger is that such information could be unlawfully shared or leaked.

Check your Google email and you might see advertising related to websites you frequent. Bell began a similar program in October.

No loonies or toonies in your pocket to plug the parking meter? Pay by phone, but your parking spot and time are logged.

Buy a coffee with a credit card. Logged. Get discounts for using a loyalty card, your purchases are logged by retailers and may be shared with their suppliers.

Access control cards are standard for many office workers and health club members.

Snowden's NSA leak has been called the most significant in U.S. history. SEAN GALLUP/GETTY IMAGES

Jetting away on a trip? Don't forget your passport. That information may already be in your airline's database for sharing with the government of your destination.

Airports have multiple layers of security, to track the movement of people and luggage.

Fingerprints and mugshots are routinely collected by some foreign countries. Could governments someday ask for your unique genetic blueprint?

In Canada, DNA is only collected from convicts. The RCMP wants Ottawa to allow it to take swabs from anyone who is arrested.

"This may be time to have a public discussion to draw those boundaries between our Charter of Rights and Freedoms and the extent to which national security remains a priority," Molnar said.

Shine a light on snooping

- In BC, MyHydro energy tracks program notices when you turn out the lights in the morning.
- In 2009, Vancouver Public Space Network counted 2,000 closed-circuit cameras in Downtown Vancouver.
- If you think your privacy is breached, contact the Privacy Commissioner of Canada, priv.gc.ca.

A Banksy graffiti work depicts a child painting CATE GILLON/GETTY IMAGES FILE

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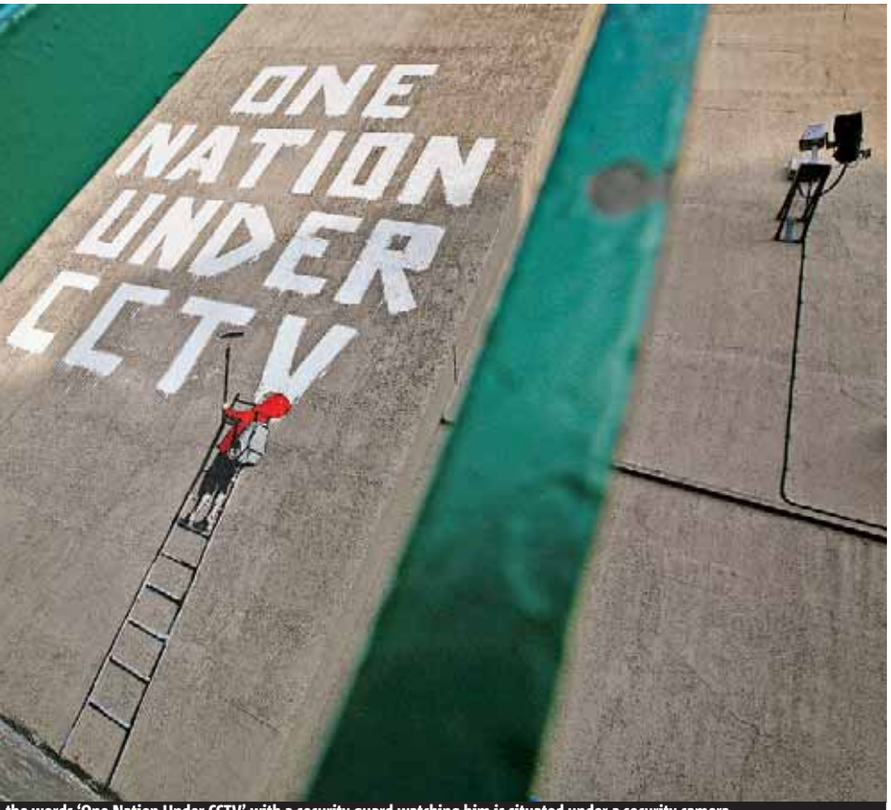

the words 'One Nation Under CCTV' with a security guard watching him is situated under a security camera.

Our products can be used for good or bad: Surveillance CEO

Alexander Fernandes had a dream in 2004 to build a better surveillance camera.

His B.C.-based Avigilon Corp. now sells high definition systems with up to 29 megapixel resolution and wants to dominate a global market forecast to be worth $30 billion by 2016.

"A camera by itself is just a paperweight in the context of security and surveillance," chairman and CEO Fernandes told Metro. "You need to be able to record all that video, search it, retransmit it over the Internet, in some cases view it remotely. We've created the world's first from-the-ground-up video surveillance system."

TSX-traded Avigilon is valued at nearly $1.27 billion. Revenue increased from $60 million to $100.3 million last year. Systems cost as little as $500, but the company boasts multimillion-dollar clients such as the Rogers Centre in Toronto, San Diego Metro Transit Authority and Saudi Arabia's King Abdulaziz Airport. City of Vancouver used Avigilon during the 2010 Winter Olympics for policing and traffic control.

There's a balance between protecting people and invading privacy according to one surveillance camera company CEO. OLI SCARFF/GETTY IMAGES FILE

Fernandes calls video surveillance a "platform for honest people and honest businesses to protect themselves from bad people doing bad things to good people."

"There's a balance between protecting people and property and not going too far and invading people's privacy," he said. "I'm a private citizen as well so I don't necessarily want people looking in on my private space. At the same time I've got children and I want some sense of them being reasonably safe going about their day-to-day livelihood catching the bus and going to school."

Video surveillance is a tool, like a car or hammer, that can be used for good or bad, he said.

Closed-circuit TV footage helped identify 2011 Stanley Cup rioters and led to the arrest of a Surrey man police believe sexually assaulted a woman who mistook a black minivan for a taxi on Oct. 12 in Gastown.

Allan Bosomworth, co-owner of Railtown's now defunct Two Chefs and a Table, was accused in September of hiding a camera in the restaurant's bathroom to record below-the-waist images. His next court date is Dec. 11.

BOB MACKIN/FOR METRO IN VANCOUVER

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Anti-government protests continue in Thailand

A protester uses a pair of wire cutters to snap and remove barbed wire erected by Thai police over the fence of the prime minister's office in Bangkok on Thursday. Protesters waging a surreal political fight to oust Thailand's elected prime minister are trying to establish what amounts to a parallel government — one complete with "security volunteers" to replace the police, a foreign policy of their own and a central committee that has already begun issuing audacious orders. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Blinded Chinese boy receives prosthetic eyes

Recovery. 6-year-old boy whose eyes were gouged was successfully fitted with prosthetics that look and move like normal eyes, but don't restore vision

Guo Bin — nicknamed Binbin — danced to music at a send-off ceremony at the C-MER Dennis Lam Eye Hospital in the southern Chinese city of Shenzhen, where he expressed gratitude and happiness more than three months after a brutal attack left him blind.

The prosthetic eyes look and move much like normal eyes, but do not restore vision. Doctors plan to fit Binbin with navigation sensors next summer that would allow him to get around on his own in familiar places.

Guo Bin smiles on Wednesday as he shows a card he drew saying "Thanks" at the hospital. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Police in the boy's hometown in northern China's Shanxi province say they suspect his aunt was the culprit in the attack, although they have not identified a motive. The woman has since committed suicide, and Binbin's parents have raised doubts.

On Thursday, the boy's mother said Binbin can put on his clothes, brush his teeth and climb stairs by himself, according to reports in Hong Kong media.

"He has adapted well and is smart," his mother, Wang Wenli, said before thanking the medical staff.

The attack on the boy horrified the Chinese public and added to outrage over violence against children. **THE ASSOCIATED PRESS**

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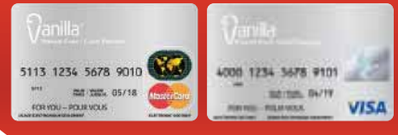

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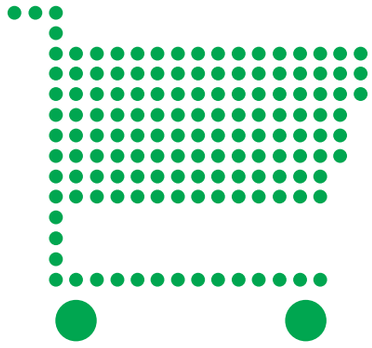

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Vladimir Putin
IVAN SEKRETAREV/THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Putin defends conservative values

State-of-the-nation address. Russian leader also warned those abroad seeking a military edge over the country

On Thursday, president Vladimir Putin cast Russia as a defender of conservative values against the "genderless and infertile" Western tolerance that he said equates good and evil.

Putin's state-of-the-nation address also contained a strong warning to those abroad who he claimed were seeking a military edge over Russia — a clear nod at the U.S. effort to develop long-range non-nuclear weapons that Russia sees as a threat to its nuclear deterrent.

The president also announced a sweeping crackdown on Russian offshore companies to bring billions of dollars home. Putin's 70-minute speech marked a determined effort to burnish Russia's image that has been dented by Western criticism of an anti-gay law which has stoked calls for a boycott of the Winter Olympics in Sochi, Putin's pet project.

"Many countries today are reviewing moral norms and erasing national traditions and distinctions between nationalities and cultures," Putin said.

"The society is now required to demonstrate not only the sensible recognition of everyone's right to freedom of conscience, political outlook and private life, but also the mandatory recognition of the equivalence of good and evil, no matter how odd that may seem."

Russia has insisted that a law banning "propaganda of non-traditional relations" does not discriminate against gays, but gay-rights groups say it has given a green light to harassment and intimidation.

Without directly referring to the anti-gay law, Putin focused on upholding traditional family values, which he said were the foundation of Russia's greatness against "so-called tolerance — genderless and infertile." THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

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Figurines for change. Gay Russian dolls highlight homophobic laws

Lovingly hand-painted "matrioshka" dolls of seven high-profile British gay men are the tools of a new campaign to highlight homophobic laws in Russia. Seven sets of models depicting British celebrities Elton John, Stephen Fry, George Michael, Graham Norton and Tom Daley will be auctioned off, with the proceeds going to LGBT charity The Kaleidoscope Trust, says Liam Fay-Fright of Mother London, the agency that designed them.

What sort of impact are you hoping for?
We want to raise at least $10,000 US for the Trust battling against homophobia. We have commissioned very talented artists so that people will want them as Christmas gifts and make a statement.

Was it difficult to choose what celebrities would become dolls?
Yes, there was a lot of competition.

Are you hoping to create a diplomatic incident?
I hope it causes a diplomatic discussion that raises awareness of the situation, leading to political pressure that encourages the government to reconsider their attitude.

From left, the dolls as Elton John, Stephen Fry, George Michael, Graham Norton and Tom Daley. CONTRIBUTED

India

Minister won't abandon legalizing homosexuality

India's law minister said Thursday that the government has not abandoned efforts to make homosexuality legal, saying the country must take swift action to challenge a Supreme Court decision banning same-sex relations. The minister, Kapil Sibal, said he was for decriminalizing homosexuality.
THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Europe

Equal benefits for gay couples that can't marry

Europe's highest court has ruled that in EU countries where gay couples can't marry, they must get the same benefits as married people if they enter into civil partnerships. The EU Court of Justice ruled Thursday in the case of Frederic Hay, a gay French bank worker who was denied benefits given to married employees.
THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Vote for Goodness

We've been searching for goodness. Here are 5 stories of genuinely good Canadians making a difference in their communities. Have a read. Then vote online for the story you'd like us to share in our next TV ad.

Ethan
St. Catharines, ON

Sometimes, good things come in small packages. Ethan, a Pee-Wee hockey player from St. Catharines, ON, has been collecting used hockey equipment since 2009 and distributing it to underprivileged hockey players throughout Ontario and around the world.

George
Oliver, BC

Wherever help is needed in Oliver, BC, you'll find George. He spends his life spreading goodness in so many ways, but what's really special is the time and effort he devotes to growing fresh vegetables for others. Last year, he donated 1800lbs of veggies to the food bank.

Sharon
Brandon, MB

One person can fill an entire community with goodness. Sharon, from Brandon, MB, is in her retirement years, but she still works 5 days a week at her local soup kitchen. There by 6 a.m. every morning, she tirelessly cooks hot meals for 125-150 people from all walks of life.

Julia and Emma
Oakville, ON

Goodness runs in their family. Teen sisters Julia and Emma from Oakville, ON made it their mission to collect books for remote "fly-in" communities in Northern Ontario. Their charity Books With No Bounds has collected and distributed over 27,000 books.

Coby
North York, ON

This story proves that you can always make time to spread goodness. Coby leads a busy life in North York, ON, but he regularly visits a long-term home for the elderly. Through the joy of music and song, he, and a group of volunteers from The House, bring smiles and a little human tenderness to the aged.

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Kim Jong Un's to death, called

Pyongyang. News report calls him 'a traitor to the nation' and 'worse than a dog'

North Korea on Friday announced the execution of Kim Jong Un's uncle, calling the leader's former mentor a traitor who tried to overthrow the state.

The announcement came only days after Pyongyang announced through state media that Jang Song Thaek — long considered the country's No. 2 power — had been removed from all his posts because of allegations of corruption, drug use, gambling, womanizing and leading a "dissolute and depraved life."

The state news agency KCNA said a tribunal examined Jang's crimes, including "attempting to overthrow the state by all sorts of intrigues and despicable methods with a wild ambition to grab the supreme power of our party and state."

Jang was seen as helping Kim Jong Un consolidate power after the death of his father, Kim Jong Il, two years ago. Jang was the latest and most significant in a series of personnel reshuffles that Kim has conducted in an apparent effort to bolster his power.

Some analysts see the purge as a sign of Kim Jong Un's growing confidence, but there has also been fear in Seoul that the removal of such an important part of the North's government — seen by outsiders as the leading supporter of Chinese-style economic reforms — could create dangerous instability or lead to a miscalculation or attack on the South.

Tensions are still high following a torrent of threats in March and April by Kim Jong Un's government against Washington, Seoul and Tokyo, including vows of missile and nuclear strikes.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

People watch a TV news program at Seoul Railway leader Kim Jong Un, being grabbed at a meeting Monday it had sacked Jang, who was considered

Ukraine will sign EU deal, says deputy PM

Ukraine's deputy prime minister said Thursday his financially troubled country will soon sign a trade and co-operation deal with the EU after the bloc promised more aid to the former Soviet republic.

Serhiy Arbuzov's comment came after a day of talks with EU Commissioner Stefan Fuele in Brussels, which were being closely watched by anti-government protesters in Ukraine who are demanding such a deal.

"Ukraine will soon sign this association agreement with the European Union," Arbuzov said. That would mark a U-turn by President Viktor Yanukovych, who had refused to close such a deal with the European Union at a summit in Lithuania two weeks ago.

Fuele said such an agreement would lead to "bigger and bigger" EU financial aid to Ukraine, and that the bloc has "made a clear commitment to match in our financial support the level of ambitions of our Ukrainian partners."

A pro-European Union activist in Independence Square in Kiev, Ukraine.
DMITRY LOVETSKY/THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Earlier Thursday, the bloc's foreign policy chief, Catherine Ashton, said that Yanukovych had told her he "intends to sign" at some point the trade and co-operation agreement he had rejected.

Activists have been amassed in Ukraine's capital, Kyiv, for weeks to protest Yanukovych's decision regarding the EU deal.

They are deeply concerned that he could instead sign an agreement to join a Russia-led customs union when he and Russian President Vladimir Putin meet next week.

Yanukovych appears to be in a tough corner. As protesters furious over his decision to turn away from the EU clog the centre of Kyiv, he appeared to be leaving his options open for the best deal he can get from his economically troubled country's powerful suitors.

Russia has put heavy pressure on Ukraine to join its bloc, which includes Belarus and Kazakhstan. Opponents say the bloc effectively tries to recreate the Soviet Union.

Yanukovych has said he is still open to the EU association agreement, if he can get a deal providing more aid to Ukraine, which is concerned about the impact of losing trade with Russia.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

uncle put a 'traitor'

Station, South Korea on Monday showing Jang Song Thaek, centre, uncle of North Korean of Workers Party's Central Committee in Pyongyang the day before. North Korea announced the country's No. 2 power. AHN YOUNG-JOON/THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Polar bears. Is Canada enforcing its own laws?

A NAFTA tribunal says there are "central open questions" about how Canada is enforcing its own laws when it comes to protecting polar bears.

And the damning ruling sets the table for a full factual study of the government's practices under Canada's Species At Risk Act.

The report marks the second-to-last step in an exhaustive process that began with a complaint in 2011 by the U.S.-based Center for Biological Diversity.

Sarah Uhlemann, the Seattle-based lawyer for the organization, says the tribunal process is designed to shame governments into following their own environmental laws.

Mexico, the United States and Canada have until Feb. 21 to vote on whether a full factual study of Canada's behaviour will go ahead.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

This undated web cam photo shows polar bears interacting with each other on Hudson Bay's southwestern shore in Manitoba. EXPLORE.ORG FILE/THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Quebec

Mayor goes to police with corruption scheme

Quebec's anti-corruption squad, known as UPAC, is giving Chateauguay Mayor Nathalie Simon full marks for filing a complaint with police this past September.

The mayor was hailed as a hero Thursday as the unit announced four arrests in a corruption sweep in the working-class town south of Montreal. Police allege the four men were trying to corrupt Simon with money and personal favours in exchange for decisions that would lead to influential positions within the city's administration or to land being re-zoned for development projects.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

Wireless networks

CRTC to see if telecom giants gouge little guys

The Canadian Radio-television and Telecommunications Commission (CRTC) will look into whether big wireless companies are charging their smaller Canadian competitors too much to use their networks.

The CRTC says some of the larger companies are charging — or want to charge — smaller Canadian companies "significantly higher" wholesale roaming rates than they charge wireless companies in the United States.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

Air Canada Express

Crew puts out fire mid-flight

Crew members aboard an Air Canada Express turboprop aircraft managed to put out an engine fire before returning to an airport on central Vancouver Island Thursday morning, says a Transportation Safety Board investigator.

Glen Friesen, the TSB's acting regional manager, said passengers saw flames in the plane's No. 2 engine shortly after the Dash 8-300 took off from the Nanaimo Airport.

"The crew extinguished the fire with the emergency fire bottles that are installed on each engine," said Friesen. There were no injuries. THE CANADIAN PRESS

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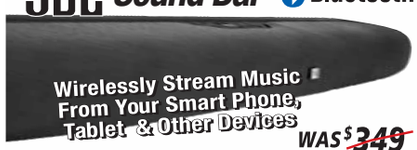

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Crime

Dine and dash? Try wine and dash

Detectives in the U.S. have recovered more than 2,500 bottles of fancy wine stolen from a Seattle shop, police said Wednesday, and they're examining whether the Thanksgiving heist might be related to a similar break-in at a San Francisco wine seller earlier this year.

The discovery came as detectives searched a storage facility Tuesday less than a mile from Esquin Wine Merchants, a wine shop in south Seattle that also houses 450 privately rented wine storage lockers. The value of the 200 cases was estimated at about $648,000 US, and police said the wine appeared to have been kept in a climate-controlled area so that it wouldn't spoil.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Suicide attempt

Police charge student with arson

An Ontario university student has been charged with arson after a dorm room was set on fire in an apparent suicide attempt that was broadcast online.

Police, fire officials and emergency workers were called to a student residence at the University of Guelph on Nov. 30.

A 21-year-old man was taken to hospital with serious but non-life threatening injuries while damage from the blaze was estimated in the thousands of dollars.

In the days that followed, the university issued an urgent plea for people to refrain from watching the online video.

The man from Orangeville, Ont., is to appear in court Jan. 24.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

HUDSON'S BAY

Shop in store and at thebay.com

A woman smokes a joint at a pro-marijuana 4-20 celebration in front of the state capitol building in Denver in this 2010 file photo. Legal marijuana sales are set to start Jan. 1 in Colorado. JOHN MOORE/GETTY IMAGES

Colorado's cash crop still on hold

Smoke up. Legal marijuana sales start Jan. 1 in U.S. state, but finding an open store could be tricky

Legal marijuana sales in the state of Colorado are set to start on Jan. 1, or so the law says.

Knowing when the recreational pot shops will actually open, however, is anyone's guess.

The state's 160 hopeful pot shops are so mired in red tape and confusion that no one knows yet when or if they'll be allowed to open. Not a single shop will clear state and local licensing requirements until about Dec. 27.

Colorado last year legalized the possession of up to an ounce of pot by adults over 21, with voters deciding to set up systems of state-licensed growers, processors and sellers.

The measures put state officials in the difficult position of crafting rules for a fledgling industry barred by federal law for more than seven decades.

Even as marijuana entrepreneurs are expanding operations, pouring concrete and planning tentative grand openings, they're still navigating a maze of regulations.

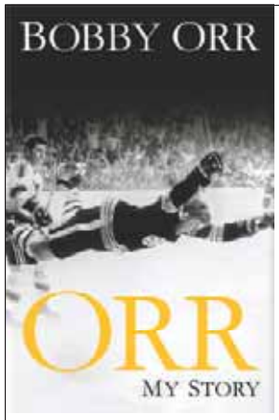
Many of the applicants are still waiting on inspections, local zoning hearings and background checks before finding out whether they've been approved to open their doors to adults over 21.

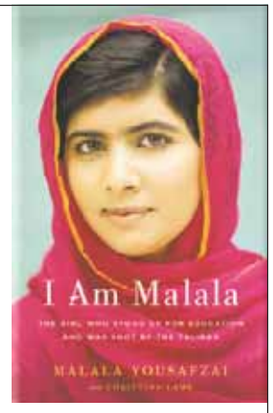
THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Cashing in

Marijuana tourism

- **Pot stop.** Marijuana tourism companies that already lead bring-your-own pot tours in Colorado are putting off new trips, unsure where they'd bring tourists looking to buy legal pot, not just smoke it.





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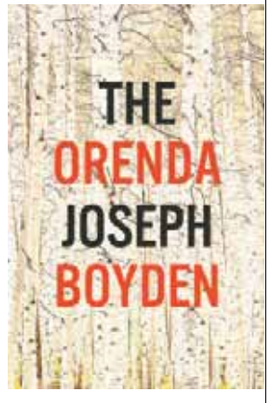

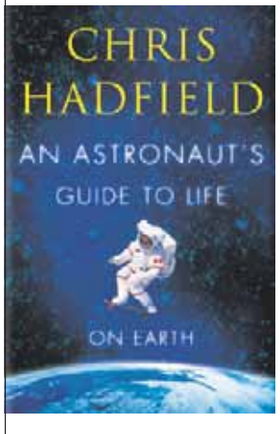

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Storms destroy refugee homes

Jordan. Zaatari camp, home to 120,000 refugees, has flooded in areas due to heavy rains

Refugee children play by a snowman in a camp for Syrians who fled their country's civil war, in eastern Lebanon, Thursday. MOHAMMED ZAATARI/THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Syrians at a sprawling refugee camp in northern Jordan scrambled to batten down their tents against torrential rains and high winds as a blustery winter storm battered parts of the Middle East for a second day Thursday.

The storm, dubbed Alexa, has pounded much of Lebanon and parts of northern Syria, pushing temperatures below zero and dumping snow and heavy rains.

Syrian refugees across the region were among the hardest hit by the storm, which heaped another layer of misery on the already grim existence of many of the more than 2 million Syrians who have fled the civil war raging in their homeland.

At Jordan's sprawling Zaatari refugee camp, wind toppled at least 10 tents Wednesday night, leaving residents vulnerable to freezing temperatures.

"It was very cold, windy and muddy and all I was able to think of is how to protect my wife and four children," said Ali Shatri, 36. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Mob rampages in Central African Republic

An angry crowd parades a man wounded as troops and peacekeepers tried to evacuate Muslim clerics from a church in Central African Republic's chaotic capital Bangui, Thursday. Peacekeepers tried to disperse a mob bent on hunting down and killing Muslims taking refuge in the church compound following rumours that a Seleka general was inside. More than 500 people have been killed over the past week in sectarian fighting in the country. JEROME DELAY/THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Poland

Woman gets face transplant

A 26-year-old woman disfigured by a tumour has received a new face in Poland's second such transplant. The woman had great difficulty chewing, swallowing and talking. The 23-hour surgery transplanted some 80 per cent of the skin on the woman's face. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Madagascar

Bubonic plague outbreak suspected

Local authorities in Madagascar say 20 people have died because of what they suspect to be an outbreak of bubonic plague. Police said Wednesday the deceased could not be treated in time. They say more than 20 others are receiving treatment.
THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

French retirement home

Caretaker accused in 6 poisoning deaths

A caretaker at a French retirement home was charged in the poisoning deaths of six patients, accused of slipping residents a psychotropic cocktail over the course of two months. Three others were sickened but survived, said the assistant prosecutor of Chambery.
THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Passengers look out the window at Beijing international airport. Starting Jan. 1, Chinese aviation authorities will require captains of domestic flights into Beijing to master low-visibility landings. ALEXANDER F. YUAN/THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Smog makes for a tough landing job in Beijing

Low visibility. Auto-landing training to be compulsory for pilots of domestic flights

Chinese aviation authorities will soon require captains of domestic flights into Beijing to master low-visibility landings to combat chronic flight delays that have been worsened by heavy smog.

Beijing Capital International Airport, China's busiest, has the worst record for flight delays of any major international airport, with only 18 per cent of flights departing on time, according to travel industry monitor FlightStats. Thick smog has cancelled or delayed flights at the Beijing airport when the city's visibility goes down to a few hundred metres — though officials typically blame the delays on weather conditions rather than pollution.

The new requirement will take effect Jan. 1, an official at the Civil Aviation Administration of China said Thursday. The official, who like many Chinese officials spoke on condition of anonymity, said the new skills would be required of all captains on Beijing-bound flights from China's other major airports.

The captains will have to learn to land their aircraft with the assistance of precision auto-landing equipment when visibility falls to 400 metres. Currently, planes are diverted to other airports when visibility is that low.

The new requirement will apply only to domestic flights because China doesn't have authority over the qualifications of foreign airlines' pilots. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Double or nothing

OLG looks to expand Niagara operations

Ontario Lottery and Gaming wants to more than triple the size of its casino operations in Niagara Falls with a new entertainment centre.

The government-run agency has put out a request for information from companies to build a 5,000-seat "privately funded multipurpose entertainment centre" that is larger than either Casino Windsor or Casino Rama near Orillia.

OLG currently operates two casinos in Niagara Falls with a maximum capacity of 1,500 seats, compared with 5,000 seats at the two other casinos.

In a news release, OLG says non-gaming facilities such as the entertainment venue being considered for Niagara Falls are becoming core amenities for gamblers. THE CANADIAN PRESS

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Children run along a towpath between houses in this photo taken in April in Qunu, South Africa. Nelson Mandela's funeral will be held in Qunu. GETTY IMAGES FILE

Village braces for Mandela funeral

Massive event. Final goodbye comes with major challenges for tiny Qunu

KIERON MONKS
Metro World News

The population of Qunu is just under 300, but a mass invasion is underway ahead of Nelson Mandela's funeral Sunday, when the Eastern Cape village where Madiba grew up hosts one of the largest events in South African history.

"There is a lot of people and a lot of disruption," said a spokesperson at the Nelson Mandela Museum, the largest building in Qunu, which has become the site of a marquee for the world's media.

Much larger temporary structures are being hastily constructed to host the ceremony and its 5,000 guests, with officials admitting work is behind schedule. Eleven venues in the local area will screen the funeral for those unable to attend, with up to 70,000 expected, and accommodation prices rising sharply across the region.

Roads leading to the village will be blocked, and the local airport in Mthatha will become a no-fly zone, reserved for around 100 private jets transporting dignitaries. "The military will be in control," announced municipality mayor Nomakhosazana Meth. "Everything is in order there, and we are ready to warmly welcome our guests."

Quoted

"Everything is in order there, and we are ready to warmly welcome our guests."
Nomakhosazana Meth, municipality mayor

Many world leaders and celebrities are expected to attend, including Britain's Prince Charles, and Oprah Winfrey. More than 1,500 members of the media have been accredited. But residents of the village have claimed they are being prevented from attending the funeral because of the visitors.

On Saturday, a military aircraft will take Mandela's body from Pretoria 900 kilometres away to the Eastern Cape. The funeral begins at 9 a.m. local time on Sunday.

The ex-president will receive a Christian burial, but also the Xhosa rituals of his community with an address to his spirit.

Interpreter says he hallucinated

The man accused of faking sign interpretation while standing alongside world leaders like U.S. President Barack Obama at Nelson Mandela's memorial service said Thursday he hallucinated that angels were entering the stadium, has schizophrenia and has been violent in the past.

Thamsanqa Jantjie said in a 45-minute interview with The Associated Press that his hallucinations began while he was interpreting and that he tried not to panic because there were "armed policemen around me." He added that he was once hospitalized in a mental health facility for more than one year and a half.

The statements by Jantjie also raise serious security issues for Obama, other heads of state and United Nations Secretary-General Ban Ki-moon who stood next to Jantjie as they made speeches at FNB Stadium in Soweto, Johannesburg's famed black township. The ceremony honoured Mandela, the anti-apartheid icon and former president who died on Dec. 5.

A South African deputy Cabinet minister, Hendrietta Bogopane-Zulu, later held a news conference to announce that "a mistake happened" in the hiring of Jantjie.

A medical expert with University College London cautioned that Jantjie's unusual sign language didn't look like it was caused by schizophrenia or another psychosis.

"The disruption of sign language in people with schizophrenia takes many forms but this does not look like anything I have seen in signers with psychosis," said Jo Atkinson, who is a clinical psychologist and researcher at the Center for Deafness, Cognition and Language. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

WestJet video goes viral; big advertising win

15 million views.
Airline's brand gets a big boost from feel-good, generous video posted online

WestJet's free advertising scheme goes viral on YouTube. SCREEN GRAB

While WestJet insists its holiday gift-giving stunt that spawned a viral video wasn't intended to be a commercial in disguise, marketing experts say the Canadian airline's brand is getting an invaluable boost as the YouTube hit count continues to surge.

In the video, which surpassed 15 million views on Thursday, the airline hatches an elaborate holiday surprise for more than 250 travellers heading to Calgary on flights from Toronto and Hamilton.

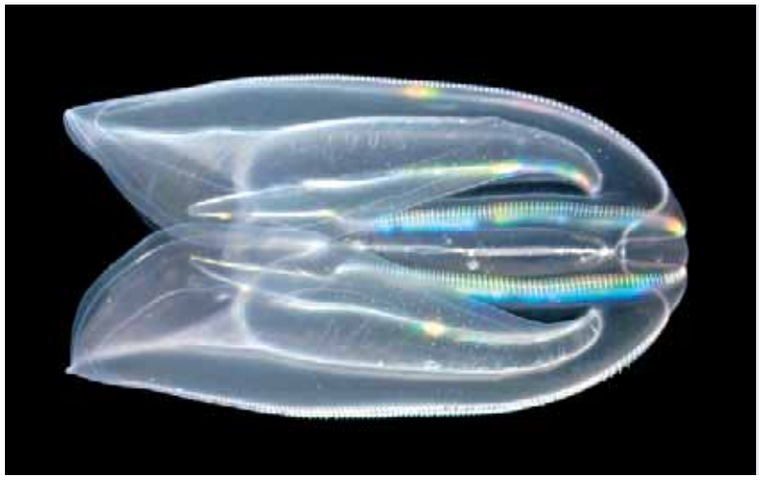
WestJet customers are seen stumbling upon a video kiosk that connects them with a blue-suited Santa Claus, who asks what they'd like for Christmas. A family asks for a big TV, a boy wants a tablet, and one man asks for socks and underwear.

WestJet staff then scramble to buy the gifts to fill those requests, which are wrapped and delivered via a luggage carousel in Calgary. The shocked reaction of the passengers as they realize what WestJet has done is a feel-good tearjerker.

"They pulled it off in stunning fashion," said Mitch Joel, president of Twist Image.

WestJet said it had hoped the video would generate 200,000 views.

THE CANADIAN PRESS



Sponges not the oldest – it's this guy: Study

Sponges are getting squeezed out of first place in evolution. This image provided by the University of Miami and the journal Science shows a Mnemiopsis leidyi, a species of comb jelly known as a sea walnut, a plankton-eating creature native to the western Atlantic. A study of DNA research published Thursday in Science says comb jellies represent the oldest branch of the animal family tree. UNIVERSITY OF MIAMI/THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Britain

Being an 'incorrigible rogue' no longer illegal

England's repeat rascals can breathe a little easier tonight. Being an "incorrigible rogue" is no longer against the law.

Britain's Ministry of Justice said that the old-fashioned-sounding offence, created in the early 19th century, was one of more than 300 obsolete offences which had been scrapped over the past year.

The 1824 Vagrancy Act was aimed at the punishment of "idle and disorderly persons," "rogues," and "vagabonds." It defined an "incorrigible rogue" as a homeless person who violently resisted arrest.

Many such laws have been heavily amended since or slipped into obsolescence as they were replaced by newer legislation. The government publishes an annual account of new and expired offences. Thursday's report said that 309 old ones were scrapped and 327 were added. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

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TimmyMe app

Two years after Starbucks, Tim's tries tap-and-pay

A limited number of Tim Hortons stores are now letting you pay for a double-double with your smartphone.

Participating outlets in Canada and the U.S. will allow users with some BlackBerry 10 devices, iPhones and Google Android smartphones to pay with a TimmyMe app. The BlackBerry app uses near field communication technology and works similarly to the tap-to-pay method used with some debit and credit cards. THE CANADIAN PRESS

Share with up to 15 peeps

Filter who gets that latest selfie on Instagram Direct

Instagram has added a new feature that lets users share photos and videos with up to 15 people rather than everyone who follows them on the popular Facebook-owned photo-sharing app.

Called Instagram Direct, the feature is available for Apple and Android phones, CEO Kevin Systrom said at a news event in New York City.

Users can choose up to 15 people who follow them on Instagram to share photos or videos.
THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Market Minute

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Have the munchies? Doritos has you covered

Feed the need. On the heels of the popular Doritos Locos Tacos prepare for chip-topped chicken wings and Mountain Dew sauces

If PepsiCo has its way you'll be licking more of that red, sticky dust from your fingers as it builds on the success of Doritos Locos Tacos. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS/TACO BELL

Dorito dust may be the new salt for more restaurant chains.

PepsiCo Inc., which owns Cheetos, Fritos, Tostitos and other snacks, found success last year after teaming up with Taco Bell to create Dorito-flavoured taco shells. And it has since been dreaming up other restaurant dishes featuring its popular snacks.

The company announced Thursday that it struck a deal to serve its drinks at Buffalo Wild Wings, picking a significant client from beverage rival Coca-Cola Co. Notably, PepsiCo also said it would work with the sports-centric chain to create "unique menu offerings."

In an interview, Buffalo Wild Wings CEO Sally Smith said she visited PepsiCo's food innovation lab in New York and was shown several dishes the chain might put on its menu. Ideas included Doritos as a crunchy topping for wings or tenders, or even just offering potato chips as a side dish.

Additionally, Smith said she was shown salad dressings and sandwich and chicken wing sauces that incorporate PepsiCo's sodas, including Mountain Dew.
THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

So crazy, it worked

Over at Taco Bell, Doritos Locos Tacos continue to be a considerable sales driver.

- Taco Bell CEO Greg Creed has noted that a major advantage of the tacos is that competitors can't replicate them — their success is largely tied to the popularity of the Doritos brand.

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Mike Benhaim
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1 Asian cockroaches. A new species has been discovered in the Big Apple. Recently identified by scientists as Periplaneta japonica, a genus native to Japan, the insect is known in China and Korea for its ability to survive in cold climates. New Yorkers remain unfazed by news of another living creature trying to survive and breed in their city.

2 Grounded. Last Friday, Tom Wagner fell asleep on a flight to Houston. He was overlooked by staff and awoke to find himself trapped in the dark aircraft. He called his girlfriend and she notified the airline, who eventually rescued him. Counter-terrorism agencies expressed concern over the news but airport security assured them that Wagner had nothing in his shoes and did not have a bottle of water.

3 Mama knows. Mothers' favourite gift this year is the FiLIP smartwatch. A colourful wristwatch doubling as a phone with voice and GPS so parents can keep track of their kids at all times. American women are currently lobbying for this same technology to be used in wedding rings.

4 Everything I (Think I) Am. Kanye West is the world's greatest artist. Just ask him. He appeared at his Texas concert wearing a mask and someone shouted, "Take it off." After having security eject the paid-ticket holder, Kanye cleared up any possibility of mistaken identity by declaring his full name. "I'm Kanye-motha-f–in-West!" he said. And no one's arguing that.

5 Grass is greener. Hashtag "cannabis" has been trending on Twitter, and not just because weed-smokers repeatedly tweeted while forgetting they had. Ganja is making news because public appeal for legalization is growing, while staunch opposers recycle archaic myths of reefer madness as they guzzle their spirit of choice. "It's a gateway drug," they say. Yes, the gateway to procrastination and poor gastronomical decisions. And last I checked, neither one of those is criminal.

6 Heading south. U.S. private equity firm Bain Capital has managed to overtake one of our country's great national treasures: Canada Goose. Current president Dani Reiss says that the corporation intends to maintain the high standards for outerwear that his family worked hard to create, and that they will continue to be made in Canada. Oh good, so we still won't be able to afford them.

7 Hallelujah. Time magazine's Person of the Year goes to Pope Francis! The people's pontiff was chosen for refocusing the church away from condemnation and back to basics like mercy, compassion and maybe even smoking weed.

8 This week in music. On Dec. 12, 1957, rock 'n' roll icon Jerry Lee Lewis, who was still married to his first wife, secretly wed his 13-year-old second cousin Myra Gale Brown. This "degenerate trifecta" raised interesting public debate about which was more disturbing: the bigamy, the incest, or the statutory rape. Now, that's what I call some Great Balls of Fire.

Follow The Metro List on Twitter @TheMetroList

ZOOM

Burglary — it's monkey business

CYRIL RUOSO/MINDEN PICTURES/SOLENT NEWS

Baboons raid apartment for food

These baboons show they really are cheeky monkeys by breaking into an apartment, stealing food and parading their loot, including a giant teddy bear. Around 10 chacma baboons clambered into the third-floor flat in Cape Town, South Africa, and wreaked havoc, after one of their accomplices managed to get the window open. METRO

Photog says

"I am quite used to working with monkeys but I was amazed. When they came out with a giant teddy bear, I was even more astonished."

Cyril Ruoso, wildlife photographer, 43, from France

Loss of habitat leads to urban raid

Due to loss of natural habitat, baboons on the Cape Peninsula are adapting to human environment, entering urban areas in search of food.

"The intimidation that the big males employ has become physical and my young son no longer feels safe in the house," says Pierrer de Villiers, who lives in the town of Scarborough on the peninsula. METRO

A baboon escapes with a teddy bear. SOLENT NEWS

Clickbait

IRENE KUAN
irene.kuan@metronews.ca

CONTRIBUTED

The festive season is in full swing, which means there is an overwhelming amount of holiday indulgence and selfie-snapping. Here are some apps that can help you look flawless, albeit not so natural, in photos.

Facetune:
For $2.99, this photo-editing app for iPhone and iPad is the perfect tool to help you achieve a professional-looking, polished photo. Options include a function to smooth the appearance of wrinkles. Smooth not enough? There's a "smoother" option, too.

Pixtr:
Use this free app to instantly perfect your photos. Pixtr can automatically correct face symmetry and remove blemishes and wrinkles. It can work with solo images, as well as group shots, personalizing results for each subject.

Beauty Camera:
This free photo-editing app for Android is designed to make you look beautiful. Say there's no good light in the room for a photo — no worries! Beauty Camera can instantly change the lighting and tonal details in the photo. You can also compare the effects with the original photo.

Twitter

pick us up on time?

@metropicks asked: A Vancouver bus driver isn't allowed to wear a Santa suit because it's against uniform policy. Should he be allowed?

@TrentRedekop: will it help him

@EthanDR: "He might not be identifiable as the transit operator" ... umm he's the one driving the bus #IDENTIFIED!

Follow @metropicks and take part in our daily poll.

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Synopsis

Picking up where An Unexpected Journey left off, Bilbo Baggins (Martin Freeman) and Gandalf (Ian McKellen) join with Thorin Oakenshield (Richard Armitage) and his army of 12 dwarves. Their goal is to traverse Mirkwood, Esgaroth and Dale to locate the fire-breathing dragon Smaug who hoards the wealth of the Lonely Mountain. On the way they battle giant spiders, make a deal with Bard the bowman (Luke Evans), the descendant of the original Lord of Dale, and some helpful and not-so-helpful elves (including a good lookin' and deadly She-Elf played by Evangeline Lilly).

- Richard: ●●●●○
- Mark: ●●○○○

The Hobbit: The Desolation of Smaug is more of an Unexpected Journey — only one that doesn't really go anywhere. HANDOUT

Reel Guys

RICHARD CROUSE AND MARK BRESLIN

This Hobbit is hobbling

The Desolation of Smaug. J.R.R. Tolkien fans will surely geek out on the latest installment but one of the Reel Guys couldn't care less about the film

Richard: Mark, despite the sense of mild confusion I felt as I tried to piece the story together, I really enjoyed The Hobbit: The Desolation of Smaug. It took a lot of back-story to get to the fifth film based on Middle-earth and its inhabitants and it will help if you know your Shire from your Sauron or your Skin Changers.

But having said that, Peter Jackson has crafted a great action adventure with the same consistency of tone, style and spirit that runs through the LOTR and Hobbit movies. They feel like story shards chipped off the same block.

Mark: Richard, there are two kinds of people in this world — those who admire and enjoy the work of J.R.R. Tolkien, and those who are repelled by his neo-medieval, Druidic nonsense.

You can guess which camp I fall into. I sat through the Rings trilogy under great duress, and skipped the first Hobbit entirely. So the only question was how much I would loathe this picture. The good news is: not that much. True, the entire movie and everyone in it needs a haircut, but the set pieces worked, especially the barrel escape down the river and the entire dragon sequence. But the movie felt so long I could have flown to Tokyo for dinner and gotten back in time for the end credits.

RC: I think fans will find the length just about right… non-fans, maybe not so much. This one worked for me. There's a Richard Attenborough old school epicness about it. It is about good and evil without troubling nuance or anti-heroes.

Perhaps because Englishman Tolkien penned these action adventure stories during the Second World War when evil was clear-cut, his books are ripe with allegory but straightforward in their approach to morality and good vs. evil.

MB: A good point, but maybe it's precisely that serious, hectoring tone that always turned me off. Evangeline Lilly, on the other hand, did not turn me off — quite the opposite.

She really holds the screen even if her ears need cosmetic surgery. But the ending — a cliffhanging cheat, if you ask me — elicited a collective groan from the audience and made the experience feel incomplete. Did you like the dark look of the picture?

RC: I did like the look. It's darker in tone than the Hobbit books for sure, but I thought it suited Peter Jackson's take on the story. I also liked the Walking Dead style battle scenes — lots of arrows in heads.

MB: I kept hoping for someone to show up with a gun and put them all out of my misery.

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Great Odin's Raven! Burgundy is back

Anchorman 2.
Will Ferrell swore he'd never make a sequel ... OK maybe just one

LIZ BROWN
liz.brown@metronews.ca

Anchorman 2 brings its style, class and fine taste in scotch to theatres next Wednesday. CONTRIBUTED

There's a stack of magazines sitting on the coffee table of Will Ferrell's suite at Toronto's Carlton-Ritz and as we settle down to chat in the plush chairs, the glossy one on top grabs his attention. He picks it up and flourishes his hand across its cover — a picture of a panda munching on a bamboo shoot.

"How apropos that there's a panda on the cover of this magazine, which was the big story in the first Anchorman. The panda story," he reminisces.

"It's too bad they're almost extinct now. But let's not talk about that."

Indeed. Time is of the essence and Ferrell's got a few more upbeat things to wax about — like Anchorman 2 and his whirlwind promotion tour.

Prior to touching down in Toronto earlier this month, he'd pulled a few Ron Burgundy stunts — co-anchoring a local newscast in Bismarck, N.D., and co-hosting the Roar of the Rings curling tournament in Winnipeg.

But it's all a labour of love for Ferrell, who together with his co-writer Adam McKay, once swore they'd never do sequels — a claim with an asterisk for one special movie.

"We would always have this sidebar conversation where it was 'well, if we ever were to do a sequel one day, it would probably be Anchorman,'" he says.

The original Anchorman reached almost cult-like status when it came out on DVD nearly 10 years ago. For a time, its jokes were fodder for every armchair comic.

"People just started falling in love with this movie on a different level after repeat viewings," says Ferrell.

In Anchorman 2, Ron Burgundy and his reunited crew (Paul Rudd, Steve Carell, David Koechner) face a new decade — the '80s — with new challenges: a 24-hour cable news channel and — gasp — a female African American boss.

In terms of joke density, Anchorman 2 packs in as many as the first and even more cameos. Kanye West, Will Smith, Amy Poehler, Tina Fey, Liam Neeson and Harrison Ford are just a fraction of the big names in the film.

"That's the love people have for Anchorman. We kept hearing from people and had them reaching out to us."

Ferrell says they even set their sights on Brad Pitt, who he wanted to play Ron Burgundy's pretty boy nemesis — anchor Jack Lime — but when Pitt declined, Ferrell and McKay brought in James Marsden.

"We just did an informal read-through of the script to see how jokes were playing and Marsden read that part and we were like 'he's the guy,'" he says.

Ferrell adds the filmmaking felt more like a reunion party.

"Just being back in our outfits, everyone felt really sentimental and it was like, 'wow, we're actually going to do this again.'"

"It's cliché sounding but I don't know if I've worked more closely with any cast, the way we get along and how we have this shared sense of letting each other be funny all at the same time and there's no real competition.

"That's rare."

Quoted

"Just being back in our outfits, everyone felt really sentimental and it was like 'wow we're actually going to do this again."

Will Ferrell on the crew reprising their newscasting roles in Anchorman 2

Anchorman app

Scotchy, scotch scotch

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Biography Comedy

Saving Mr. Banks

Director. John Lee Hancock

Stars. Tom Hanks, Emma Thompson

The story of Walt Disney's (Tom Hanks) efforts to convince author P.L. Travers (Emma Thompson) to sell the rights to Mary Poppins is actually two stories folded into one. The first is a Hollywood tale. The second a psychological drama told in flashbacks about Travers's troubled father (Colin Farrell). Fine performances abound but this is Thompson's movie. Her portrayal of Travers is nuanced, split between the cantankerous woman she became with echoes of the innocent young girl she once was. **RICHARD CROUSE**

Horror

Antisocial

Director. Cody Calahan

Stars. Michelle Mylett

Homegrown Ontario horror hero Chad Archibald (Neverlost) co-writes this paranoid quasi-zombie thriller in which an epidemic of madness forces a gaggle of college kids to hole themselves up in their dormitory apartment, using cellphones and social networking to evade an army of murderous ghouls. This is standard Night of the Living Dead stuff goosed with modern techno trappings but budget-betraying craft and a dynamite electronic music score make it compelling.
CHRIS ALEXANDER

Biography

The Wagner Files

Director. Ralph Pleger

Stars. Samuel Finzi, Pegah Ferydoni

A truly unusual fusion of biographical and experimental moviemaking, The Wagner Files reconstructs the life of the legendary German composer through a series of stylized vignettes. The playfully severe, mock-investigative-report format is only semi-successful in breaking up the monotony of so much straightforward historical information, while animated segments strive to visualize images already made vivid by Wagner's music. Still, Ralph Pleger's lovingly assembled production is a genuine curiosity. **ADAM NAYMAN**

Documentary

The Crash Reel

Director. Lucy Walker

Stars. Kevin Pearce, Shaun White

Kevin Pearce was as strong a snowboarder as his best friend and rival Shaun White. They were ranked first and second in the world and poised to compete at the 2010 Winter Olympics in Vancouver when Pearce nearly died in a training accident. He suffered severe brain trauma but vowed to get back in the game despite significant evidence that he never would. White went on to win the gold, while Pearce underwent rehab and contemplated a new life. This is a profound portrait of an unlucky soul. **ANNE BRODIE**

Documentary

Blood Brother

Director. Steve Hoover

Stars. Rocky Braat, Steve Hoover

In the Sundance hit Blood Brother, filmmaker Steve Hoover tracks down his wayward Pittsburgh pal Rocky Braat — who bolted on a bohemian trip only to find himself caring for AIDS-afflicted orphans in India. A compassionate five-year documentary, Braat makes for a fascinating, inspirational figure — although the film could've provided deeper context to the issue of HIV in impoverished nations. Still, the emotional punch that Blood Brother packs more than makes up for any of its trivial shortcomings. **STEVE GOW**

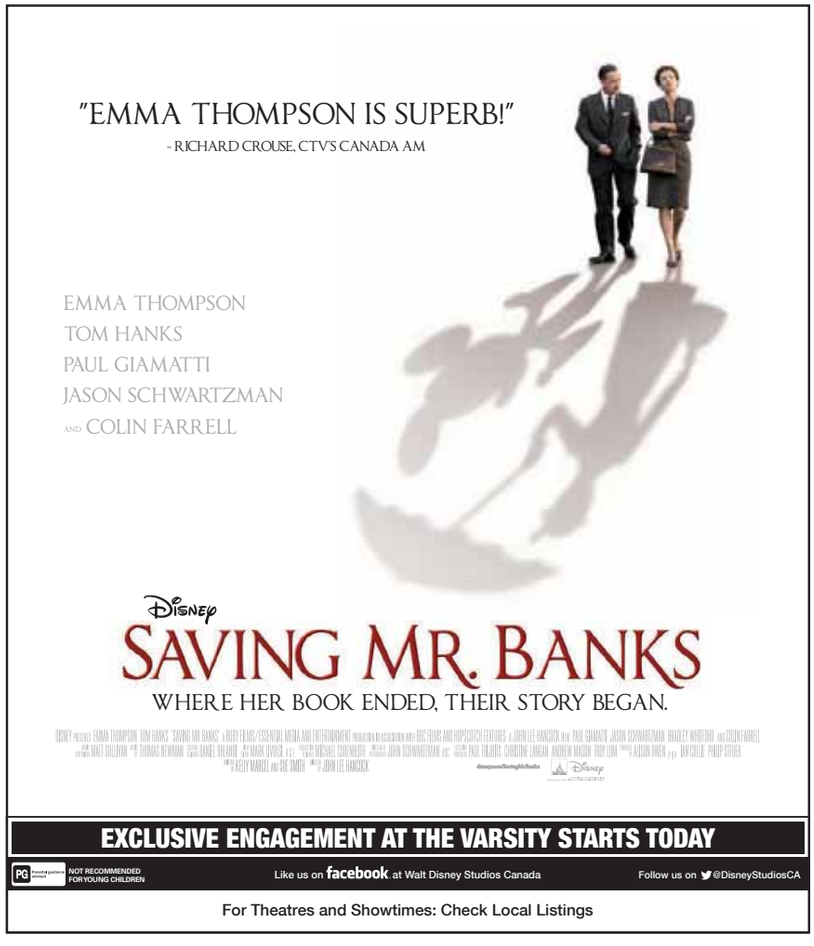
Documentary

The Pervert's Guide to Ideology

Director. Sophie Fiennes

Stars. Slavoj Zizek

The Pervert's Guide to Ideology could easily substitute as a university lecture. In this lengthy lesson, the professor, cultural theorist Slavoj Zizek, demonstrates how films — and also music and current events — reinforce ideologies. Zizek delivers his expositions on capitalism, racism, etc. from sets designed to look as if he's inside the films. (In the middle of the night, on a tiny boat in the "Atlantic Ocean" Zizek examines Titanic and Marxism.) But, as in any lecture, the student interest begins to wane. **REGAN REID**



Lots of talent, but little gold to go around

Golden Globes noms. It's a crowded field and the Hollywood Foreign Press doesn't seem to know what funny is

NED EHRBAR
Metro World News in Hollywood

Awards season is officially here, thanks to the announcements of the Golden Globe nominations, and the best word to describe this year's crop is crowded. So crowded, in fact, that some heavy hitters have been almost left out.

Steve McQueen's 12 Years a Slave is still considered the lead favourite, with nominations for the film itself, director McQueen, stars Chiwetel Ejiofor, Michael Fassbender and Lupita Nyong'o, screenwriter John Ridley and composer Hans Zimmer.

But with such a crowded year it's easy for votes to get split. At least McQueen doesn't have to worry about David O. Russell's nomination-heavy American Hustle until the Oscars, as the Hollywood Foreign Press (HFPA) have placed it in the musical or comedy category (see sidebar).

Though it earned several nominations earlier in the week from the Screen Actors Guild, Lee Daniels' the Butler didn't garner a mention — not even for Oprah Winfrey, despite the HFPA's starstruck reputation. And while Martin Scorsese's Wolf of Wall Street nabbed nominations for the film and star Leonardo DiCaprio, it didn't make the cut in any other major category. Sorry, Scorsese.

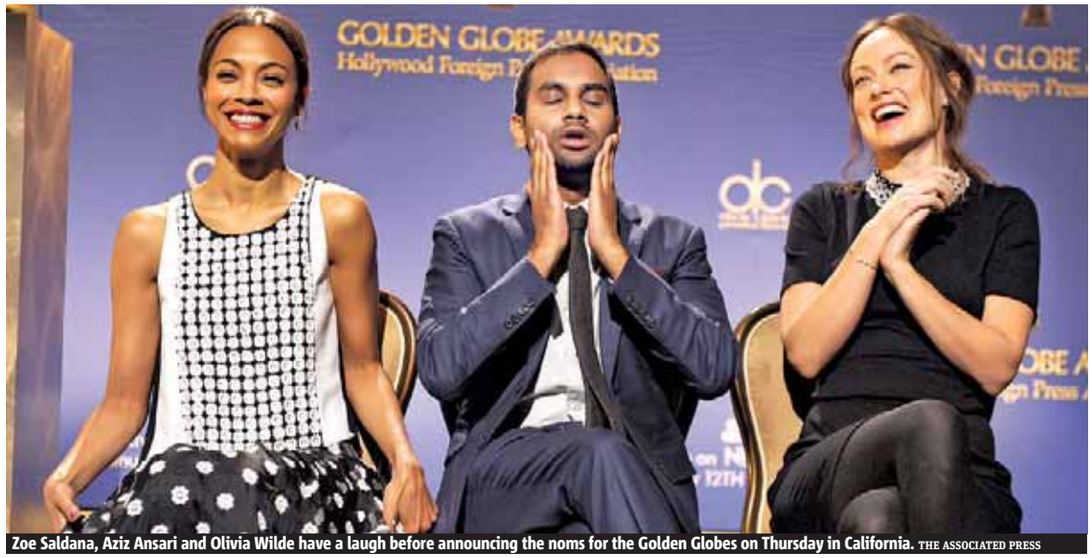
Ejiofor, Idris Elba and Julia Louis-Dreyfus will be pulling double duty come the night of the awards, with nominations in both the film and television categories. And ceremony co-host Amy Poehler might have to take a break to make an acceptance speech, as she's up for her work on Parks and Recreation.

But what's most noteworthy about the television nominations is what and who didn't get nominated. The HFPA obviously didn't respond to the most recent season of Mad Men, as the series didn't score a single nod. Neither did HBO's Game of Thrones or Showtime's Homeland. And while Downton Abbey earned a nomination for the series itself, none of the cast — not even Maggie Smith — warranted a mention.

The Golden Globes will be awarded during a televised ceremony Jan. 12, four days before the Academy Awards nominations are announced.

That's not funny!

The HFPA is earning more than the usual amount of criticism this year for its musical or comedy film categories not really honouring musicals or comedy. Some of the films filling the top category — best picture musical or comedy (American Hustle, Her, Inside Llewyn Davis, Nebraska and The Wolf of Wall Street) shouldn't really be considered comedies, critics are arguing. Producers have been criticized in the past for positioning serious fare in the comedy category to increase a film's chances.

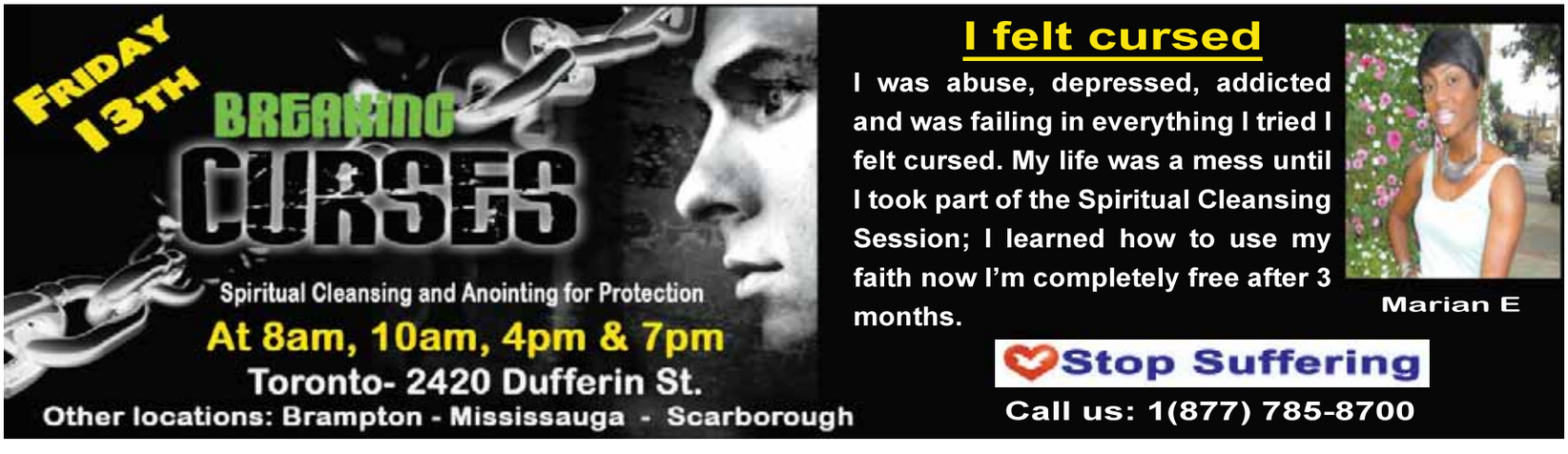


Zoe Saldana, Aziz Ansari and Olivia Wilde have a laugh before announcing the noms for the Golden Globes on Thursday in California. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Nominations

- **Best Motion Picture Drama.** 12 Years a Slave; Captain Phillips; Gravity; Philomena; Rush
- **Best Motion Picture Musical or Comedy.** American Hustle; Her; Inside Llewyn Davis; Nebraska; The Wolf of Wall Street
- **Best Director.** Alfonso Cuaron - Gravity; Paul Greengrass - Captain Phillips; Steve McQueen - 12 Years a Slave; Alexander Payne - Nebraska; David O. Russell - American Hustle
- **Best Actor Motion Picture Drama.** Chiwetel Ejiofor - 12 Years a Slave; Idris Elba - Mandela: Long Walk to Freedom; Tom Hanks - Captain Phillips; Matthew McConaughey - Dallas Buyers Club; Robert Redford - All is Lost
- **Best Actor Motion Picture Musical or Comedy.** Christian Bale - American Hustle; Bruce Dern - Nebraska; Leonardo DiCaprio, - the Wolf of Wall Street; Oscar Isaac - Inside Llewyn Davis; Joaquin Phoenix - Her
- **Best Actress Motion Picture Drama.** Cate Blanchett - Blue Jasmine; Sandra Bullock - Gravity; Judi Dench - Philomena; Emma Thompson - Saving Mr. Banks; Kate Winslet - Labor Day
- **Best Actress Motion Picture Musical or Comedy.** Amy Adams - American Hustle; Julie Delpy - Before Midnight; Greta Gerwig - Frances Ha; Julia Louis-Dreyfus - Enough Said; Meryl Streep - August: Osage County
- **Best Drama Series.** Breaking Bad; Downtown Abbey; the Good Wife; House of Cards; Masters of Sex
- **Best Comedy Series.** The Big Bang Theory; Brooklyn Nine-Nine; Girls; Modern Family; Parks and Recreation
- **Best Actor in a TV Drama Series.** Bryan Cranston - Breaking Bad; Lieve Schreiber - Ray Donovan; Michael Sheen - Masters of Sex; Kevin Spacey - House of Cards; James Spader - The Blacklist
- **Best Actress in a TV Drama Series.** Julianna Margulies - the Good Wife; Tatiana Maslany - Orphan Black; Taylor Schilling - Orange is the New Black; Kerry Washington - Scandal; Robin Wright - House of Cards
- **Best Actress in a TV Comedy Series.** Zooey Deschanel - New Girl; Lena Dunham - Girls; Edie Falco - Nurse Jackie; Julia Louis-Dreyfus - Veep; Amy Poehler - Parks and Recreation

Taylor Schilling received a nom for her role in Orange is the New Black. CONTRIBUTED



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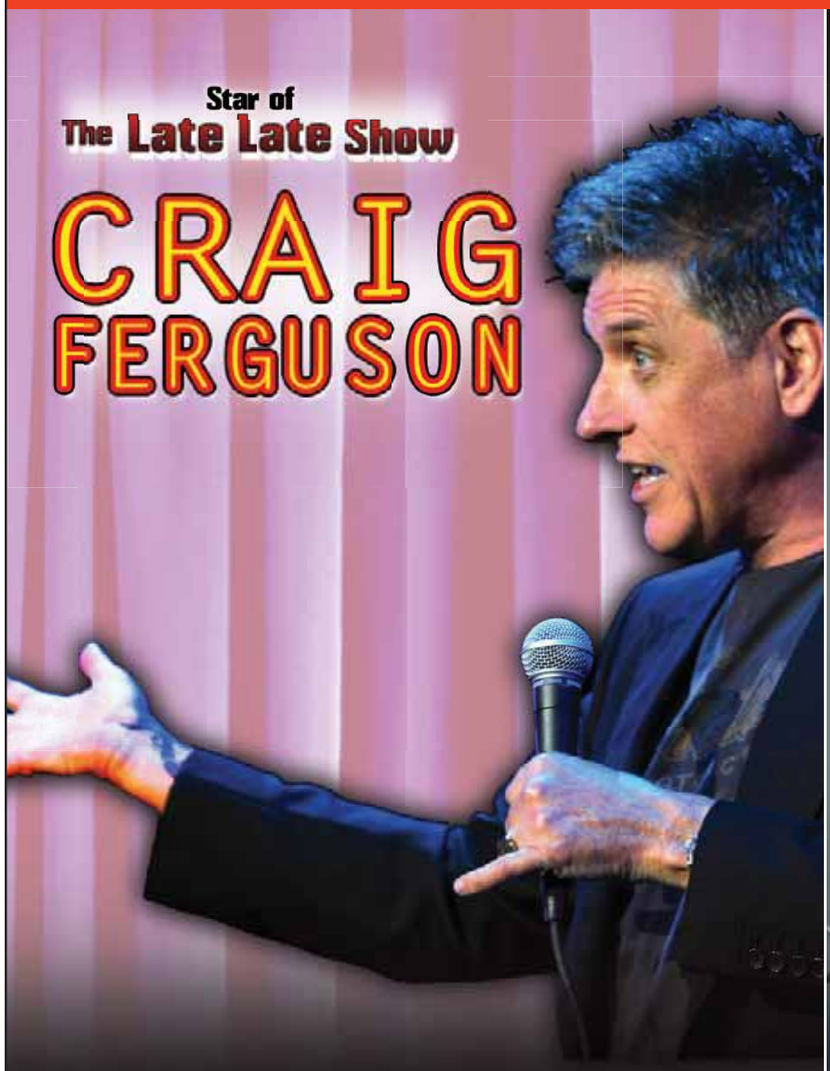

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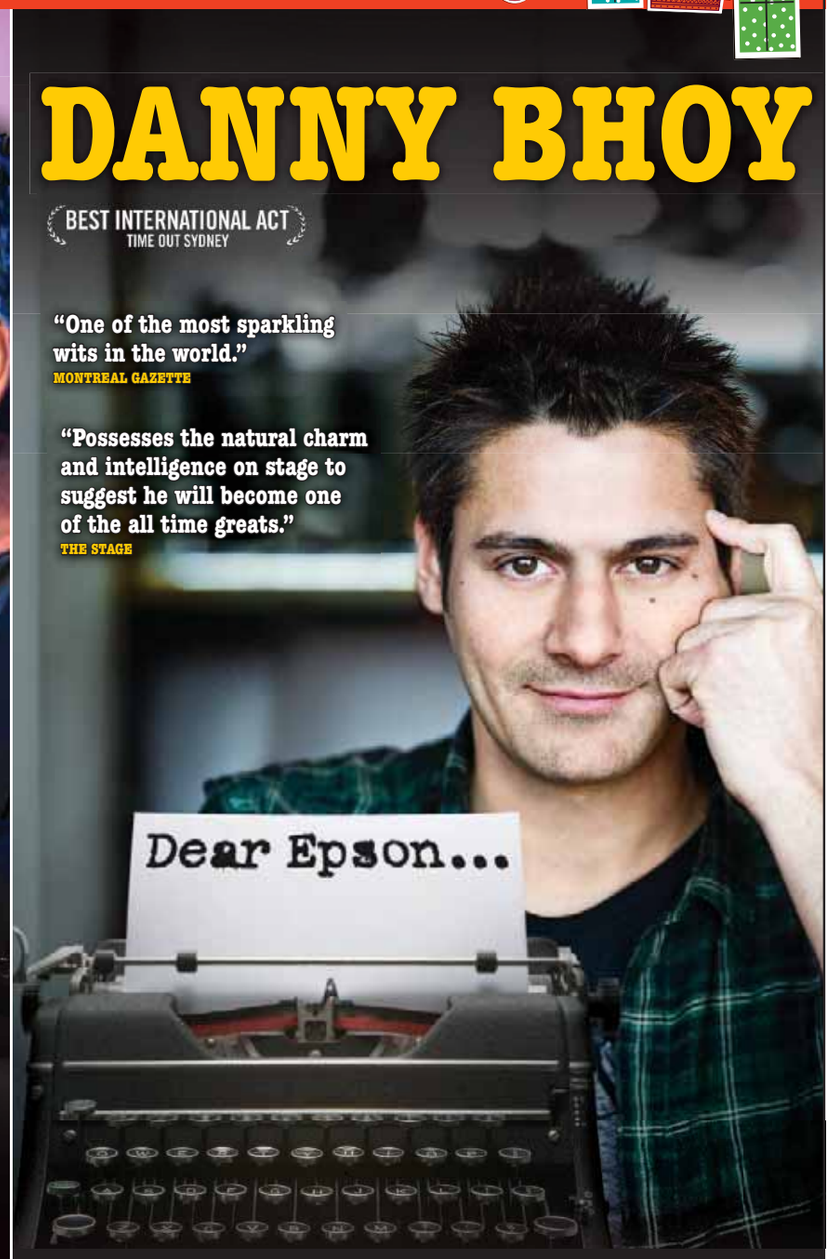

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Chronicle of My Mother (STC) Sun 6:30
Life Back Then (STC) Mon 6:30
The Prime Ministers: The Pioneers (STC) Fri 6:30 Sat 1-6 Sun 12 Tue 3-9:30 Thu 6:30
Seven Days of Himawari and Her Puppies (STC) Sun 3:30
Welcome Home, Hayabusa (STC) Tue 6:30

Carlton, 20 Carlton St.

12 Years a Slave (14A) Fri-Thu 1:15-4-6:45-9:30
Anchorman 2: The Legend Continues (PG) Tue-Wed 9:20 Thu 1:25-4-6:40-9:20
Andre Gregory: Before and After Dinner (STC) Fri-Thu 1:40-6:40
Antisocial (STC) Fri-Thu 1:30-4-7-9:30
Black Mountain Side (STC) No Passes Mon 7
Blue Is the Warmest Color (R) Fri-Sun 1:15-4:50-8:25 Mon 1:15 Tue-Thu 1:15-4:50-8:25
Captain Phillips (14A) Fri-Thu 3:50-9:20
The Hobbit: The Desolation of Smaug (PG) No Passes Fri-Thu 1:10-1:30-4:40-5-8-9
Homefront (14A) Fri-Mon 4-9:20 Tue 4
The Last Days on Mars (14A) Fri-Tue 1:25-7:05
Little Terrors Horror Shorts (STC) Wed 9
The Punk Syndrome (STC) Fri-Thu 4:15-9:15
Thor: The Dark World (PG) Fri-Tue 1:20-3:55-6:45-9:25 Wed 1:20-3:55-6:45 Thu 1:20-3:55-6:45-9:25
The Wagner Files (STC) Fri-Thu 1:45-7

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The Hobbit: The Desolation of Smaug 3D (PG) No Passes Fri-Thu 12-3:30-7:10-10:50 No Passes Fri 12:30-2-2:30-4:10-5:40-6:10-7:50-9:20-9:50 No Passes Sat 12:15-12:30-2-3:45-4:10-5:40-6:10-7:50-9:20-9:50 No Passes Sun 12:30-2-2:30-4:10-5:40-6:10-7:50-9:20-9:50 No Passes Mon 12:30-2-2:30-4:10-5:05-5:40-7:50-8:50-9:20-9:45 No Passes Tue-Thu 12:30-2-2:30-4:10-5:40-6:10-7:50-9:20-9:50
The Hobbit: The Desolation of Smaug: An IMAX 3D Experience (PG) No Passes Fri-Thu 11:30-3-6:40-10:20
Homefront (14A) Fri 12:15-3:20-6-8:30-11 Sat-Sun 12:20-3:20-6-8:30-11 Mon 1:10-3:40-6:50-9:50 Tue-Thu 12:15-3:20-6-8:30-11
The Hunger Games: Catching Fire (PG) Fri 11:40-12:40-1:45-2:50-4-5:50-6:20-7:20-9:05-9:35-10:40 Sat 11:40-12:40-2:50-4-5:50-6:20-7:20-9:05-9:35-10:40 Sun 11:40-12:40-1:45-2:50-4-5:50-6:20-7:20-9:05-9:35-10:40 Mon 11:40-12:40-1:45-2:50-4-6:10-7:20-9:30-10:35 Tue-Wed 11:40-12:40-1:45-2:50-4-5:50-6:20-7:20-9:05-9:35-10:40 Thu 11:40-12:40-1:45-2:50-4-5:50-7:20-9:05-9:40-10:40
The Metropolitan Opera: Falstaff (STC) Sat 12:55
The Metropolitan Opera: Tosca - Encore (STC) Mon 6:30
Out of the Furnace (14A) Fri-Sat 11:30-2:15-5-7:40-10:50 Sun 12:10-2:15-5-7:40-10:50 Mon 11:30-2:15-5:15-8-10:45 Tue-Thu 11:30-2:15-5-7:40-10:50
Thor: The Dark World (PG) Fri 1:15 Sat 11:50 Sun 1:15 Mon 1:20 Tue-Thu 1:15
Thor: The Dark World 3D (PG) Fri 4:25-7:30-10:30 Sat 2:40-7:30-10:30 Sun 4:25-7:30-10:30 Mon 4:05-6:55-10:30 Tue-Thu 4:25-7:30-10:30

Market Square
80 Front St.

12 Years a Slave (14A) Fri 12:35-3:20-6:30-9:25 Sat 12:35-3:20-6:30-9:25-11:35 Sun-Mon 12:35-3:20-6:30-9:25 Tue 12:35-3:20-6:30-9:25-11:35 Wed 12:35-3:20-6:30-9:25 Thu 12:35-3:20
American Hustle (14A) Thu 7-9:50
Anchorman 2: The Legend Continues (PG) No Passes Tue 9-11:20 Wed 1-3:40-6:50-9:25 Thu 3:40-6:50-9:25 Thu 1
Delivery Man (PG) Fri-Tue 1-6:40
Frozen (G) Fri-Thu 12:30-2:50-5:05-7:15-9:30
The Hobbit: The Desolation of Smaug (PG) No Passes Fri 12:30-12:35-3:50-4:30-7:10-8:30 No Passes Sat 12:30-12:35-3:50-4:30-7:10-8:30-10:20 No Passes Sun-Mon 12:30-12:35-3:50-4:30-7:10-8:30 No Passes Tue 12:30-12:35-3:50-4:30-7:10-8:30-10:20 No Passes Wed-Thu 12:30-12:35-3:50-4:30-7:10-8:30
Home Alone (PG) Sun 11
Homefront (14A) Fri 3:15-9:15 Sat 3:15-9:15-11:25 Sun-Mon 3:15-9:15 Tue 3:15-9:15-11:25
The Hunger Games: Catching Fire (PG) Fri 12:40-3:35-6:35-9:35 Sat 12:40-3:35-6:35-9:35-11:30 Sun-Mon 3:35-9:35 Tue 12:40-3:35-6:35-9:35-11:30 Wed 3:35-9:35 Thu 12:40-3:35-6:35-9:35 Sun-Mon 12:40-6:35 Wed 12:40-6:35
The Impossible (PG) Sat 10:30

Revue Cinema
400 Roncesvalles Ave.

Bastards (14A) Tue 9 Wed 7
Black Christmas (18A) Thu 9:30
Enough Said (PG) Fri 7 Sat 4:30-7 Sun 4:15-7 Mon 7 Wed 9
The Exorcist (18A) Thu 6:45
The Polar Express (G) Sun 2
Watermark (G) Fri-Mon 9 Tue 7

The Royal
608 College St.

All Is Lost (PG) Fri 7 Sat-Sun 9:15 Wed 9 Thu 7
Horror Remix: Beast (STC) Fri 9:15
Kill Your Darlings (14A) Sat-Mon 7 Wed 7 Thu 9:15
No Films Showing Today (STC) Tue
The Room (STC) Fri 11:30

Varsity
55 Bloor St. W.

The Book Thief (PG) Fri-Sun 1-4-7-10:10 Mon-Wed 12:30-3:25-6:25-9:20 Thu 3:25-6:25-9:20
Dallas Buyers Club (18A) Fri-Sun 1:30-4:20-7:10-10:05 Mon 1:30-4:05-9:35 Tue-Thu 1:30-4:05-6:50-9:35
Fri-Sun 12:35-3:35-6:15-9 Mon-Tue 1-3:45-6:35-9:15
Gravity 3D (PG) Fri-Sun 12:20-2:35-5-7:20-9:40 Mon 1:50-4:20-9 Tue 1:50-4:20-6:40-9
Her (14A) Wed-Thu 1:25-4:20-7:20-10:10 Wed-Thu 1-3:45-6:35-9:40
The Hunger Games: Catching Fire (PG) Fri-Sun 12-3:20-6:40-10 Mon-Thu 12:40-3:50-7:05-10:15
Nebraska (PG) Fri-Sun 12:40-3:40-6:30-9:15 Mon-Tue 2-4:40-7:15-9:55 Wed-Thu 1:10-4-6:40-9:15
Out of the Furnace (14A) Fri-Sun 1:50-4:40-7:30-10:20 Mon-Tue 1:45-4:30-7:20-10:05 Wed 12:45-3:30-6:15-9 Thu 12:45-3:30-9
Philomena (PG) Fri-Sun 12:10-2:40-5:10-7:40-10:15 Mon 2:10-4:35-6:30-10 Tue-Thu 2:30-4:50-7:30-9:50 Fri-Sun 1:25-4:10-6:45-9:20 Mon-Thu 1:40-4-7:10-9:30
Saving Mr. Banks (PG) No Passes Fri-Sun 12:15-1:15-3:15-4:15-6:25-7:25-9:30-10:35 No Passes Mon 12:50-1:20-3:40-4:10-6:40-7-9:30-10 No Passes Tue-Wed 12:50-1:20-3:40-4:10-6:30-7-9:30-10 No Passes Thu 12:50-1:20-3:40-4:10-6:15-7-9:30-10 No Passes Fri-Sun 12:45-3:50-6:50-9:50 No Passes Mon-Wed 1:05-3:55-6:45-9:45 No Passes Thu 12:30-3:55-6:45-9:45

Canada Square
2200 Yonge St.

12 Years a Slave (14A) Fri 3:55-6:45-9:35 Sat-Sun 1:05-3:55-6:45-9:35 Mon-Thu 4-6:55
About Time (14A) Fri-Sun 8:40
All Is Lost (PG) Fri 3:50-6:10-8:30 Sat-Sun 1:20-3:40-6-8:30 Mon-Thu 4:15-6:40
Captain Phillips (14A) Fri 3:50-6:40-9:30 Sat-Sun 1-3:50-6:40-9:30 Mon-Thu 4-6:50
Delivery Man (PG) Fri 4:40-7-9:20 Sat-Sun 1:40-4:40-7-9:20 Mon-Thu 4:10-6:30
Enough Said (PG) Fri 4:20-6:30 Sat-Sun 1:50-4:10-6:20 Mon-Thu 4:05-6:20
Free Birds (G) Fri 4:10 Sat-Sun 1:15 Mon-Thu 4:40
Gravity 3D (PG) Fri 4:50-7:10-9:30 Sat-Sun 1-3:05-5:10-7:25-9:30 Mon-Thu 4:50-7:10
Homefront (14A) Fri 6:20-8:50 Sat-Sun 3:30-6:10-8:50 Mon-Thu 7:15
Last Vegas (PG) Fri 4:20-6:50-9:10 Sat-Sun 1:30-4:20-6:50-9:10 Mon-Thu 4:30-7

Mt. Pleasant Theatre
675 Mt.Pleasant Rd.

Blue Jasmine (14A) Fri-Sat 9:30 Sun 7 Tue 7
Lee Daniels' The Butler (14A) Fri-Sat 6:45 Sun 4:10 Wed-Thu 7
No Films Showing Today (STC) Mon

Regent Theatre
551 Mt.Pleasant Rd.

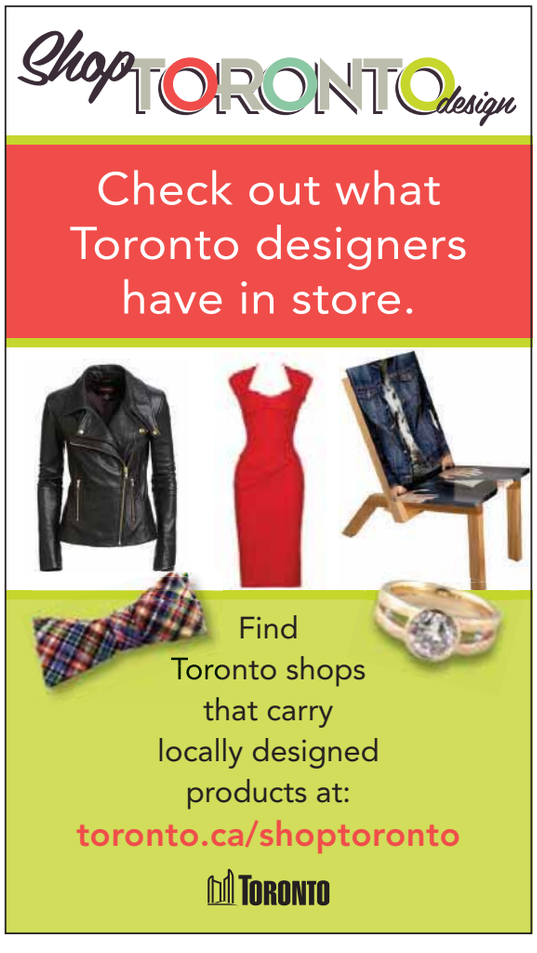
Muscle Shoals (PG) Fri 9:05 Sat 7 Sun 4:30 Tue 7 Thu 7
Night Train to Lisbon (14A) Fri 7 Sat 9:05 Sun 7 Wed 7
No Films Showing Today (STC) Mon

Yonge-Eglinton Centre
2300 Yonge St.

Anchorman 2: The Legend Continues (PG) No Passes Wed-Thu 2:10-5:05-8-10:55
The Book Thief (PG) Fri 1-4-7:30-10:40 Sat 3:15-6:20-9:30 Sun 12:15-3:15-6:20-9:30 Mon 10:35 Tue 12:10-3:10-6:30-9:30 Mon 12:10-3:10
Dallas Buyers Club (18A) Fri 12-4:50-8-10:50 Sat 2:10-5-8-10:50 Sun 1:20-4:20-7:20-10:15 Mon 12-5-7:50-10:40 Tue 11:55-5-7:50-10:40 Wed 11:50-5:15-8:05-10:55 Thu 12:10-5:15-8:05-10:55
Frozen (G) Fri 11:50 Sat 12:30-2:30-4:50 Sun 11:30 Mon 12 Tue 11:50 Wed-Thu 12
Frozen 3D (G) Fri 2-6:10-9 Sat 11:30-7:50-10:30 Sun 2:10-5-7:50-10:30 Mon 12:30-3:30-6:10-9 Tue 2:25-6:10-9 Wed 2:35-7:55-10:35 Thu 2:20-6:40-9:30
The Hobbit: The Desolation of Smaug (PG) No Passes Fri 1:40-5:20-9:10 No Passes Sat 11:30-3-6:40-10:20 No Passes Sun-Mon 1:40-5:20-9:10 No Passes Tue 1:40-3:20-7:10 No Passes Wed 1:40-5:20-9:10
The Hobbit: The Desolation of Smaug 3D (PG) No Passes Fri 2:40-6:20-10:10 No Passes Sat 12:30 No Passes Sun 11:30-3-6:40-10:20 No Passes Mon 6:20-10:10 No Passes Tue-Thu 2:40-6:20-10:10 No Passes Fri-Sun 12-3:30-7:10-10:50 No Passes Mon 2:40 No Passes Thu 1:40-5:20-9:10 No Passes Sat 5:20-9:10 No Passes Mon-Thu 12-3:30-7-10:40
Holiday Inn (STC) Wed 7
The Hunger Games: Catching Fire (PG) Fri 12:10-3:20-6:50-10:20 Sat 1-4:20-7:30-10:45 Sun 12:40-4-7:30-10:45 Mon-Tue 12:40-4-7:15-10:30 Wed 4:15-7:30-10:45 Thu 1-4:15-7:30-10:45 Star & Strollers Screening Wed 1
The Metropolitan Opera: Falstaff (STC) Sat 12:55
The Metropolitan Opera: Tosca - Encore (STC) Mon 6:30
Philomena (PG) Fri 2:45-5:10-7:40-10:15 Sat 11:50-5:10-7:40-10:10 Sun 12:10-2:35-5:10-7:40-10:10 Mon-Tue 2:45-5:10-7:40-10:15 Wed 4-6:40-9:30 Thu 3-5:30-8:15-10:50 Star & Strollers Screening Wed 1
Thor: The Dark World (PG) Fri 12:05 Sun-Tue 1 Wed 12:15 Thu 12:45
Thor: The Dark World 3D (PG) Fri 3-7-10:30 Sat 3:55-6:50-9:50 Sun-Tue 3:50-6:50-9:50 Wed 3:10-9:50 Thu 3:55-6:50-9:50

Yonge & Dundas 24
10 Dundas St East

12 Years a Slave (14A) Fri-Sat 3:25-6:45-9:50 Sun 12:25-3:25-6:45-9:50 Mon 9:50 Tue-Thu 12:25-3:25-6:45-9:50 Mon 12:25-3:25-6:25
About Time (14A) Fri 1:40-4:30-7:20-10:15 Sat-Wed 12:10-3-6:30-9:35 Thu 12:30-7-9:50
American Hustle (14A) Thu 7-10:15
Anchorman 2: The Legend Continues (PG) No Passes Wed-Thu 12:05-1:05-3:10-4:10-6:05-7:05-9-10 No Passes Wed-Thu 2:10-5:05-8-10:45
The Best Man Holiday (14A) Fri 1:30-4:15-7:30-10:25 Sat-Sun 1:30-4:15-7:25-10:15 Mon 1:30-4:15-10:15 Tue 1:30-4:15-7:25-10:15
The Book Thief (PG) Fri 3:40-6:40-9:40 Sat-Sun 12:20-3:40-6:40-9:40 Mon 12:20-3:40-6:45-10:15 Tue-Wed 12:20-3:40-6:40-9:40 Thu 12:20-3:40-9:40
Captain Phillips (14A) Fri 3:15-6:15-9:20 Sat-Sun 11:55-3:15-6:15-9:20 Mon-Thu 3:15-6:15-9:20
Commitment (14A) Fri-Sun 1:50-4:30-7:10-9:50 Mon 1:10-3:55-7:10-9:50 Tue-Thu 1:50-4:30-7:10-9:50
Dallas Buyers Club (18A) Fri 1:55-4:40-7:35-10:20 Sat-Wed 1:55-4:40-7:25-10:20 Thu 4:40-7:25-10:20 Star & Strollers Screening Thu 2
Delivery Man (PG) Fri-Thu 2:50-5:20-7:55-10:30
Die Hard (14A) Fri 4:30-9:45 Sat 9:30 Mon-Tue 4:15-9:45 Wed 4-9:30 Thu 4:15-9:45
Ender's Game (PG) Fri 2:05-4:45-



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APOTEX ADVANCING GENERICS

7:25-10:05 Sat-Wed 1-4-7-10 Thu 1-4
Friend 2: The Legacy (STC) Fri 1:30-4:15-7-9:55 Sat-Thu 12:55-4:10-7-9:55
Frozen (G) Fri 3:20-5:55-8:30 Sat-Wed 12:30-3:20-5:55-8:30 Thu 12:30-3:20
Frozen 3D (G) Fri-Sun 1:45-4:20-6:55-9:30 Mon 4:30-6:55-9:30 Tue-Thu 1:45-4:20-6:55-9:30
Gravity: An IMAX 3D Experience (PG) Fri-Thu 2:35-4:55-7:15-10:10
Holiday Inn (STC) Wed 1:30-7
Jackass Presents: Bad Grandpa (14A) Fri 2:05-4:25-6:45 Sat 2:25-4:45-7:05-10:15 Sun 11:50-2:25-4:45-7:05-10:15 Mon 2:05-4:25 Tue 2:25-4:45-7:05-9:15
The King of Comedy (STC) Sat 4
Philomena (PG) Fri 2-4:25-6:50-9:15 Sat-Thu 12:45-3:30-6:50-9:15
Puella Magi Madoka Magica the Movie: Rebellion (PG) Sun 12:55-4
R... Rajkumar (14A) Fri 3:10-6:35-9:45 Sat-Tue 12-3:10-6:35-9:45
Saving Mr. Banks (PG) No Passes Thu 7:20-10:15
Scrooged (PG) Fri 2-7:15 Sat 12:55-7 Mon-Tue 1:45-7 Thu 1:45-7:30
Tyler Perry's A Madea Christmas (14A) Fri 3-5:30-8-10:30 Sat-Wed 12:30-3-5:30-8-10:30 Thu 4:25-6:45-10:30 Star & Strollers Screening Thu 2
WWE TLC: Tables, Ladders and Chairs (STC) Sun 8

TIFF Bell Lightbox
350 King St. West

The Big Lebowski (14A) Fri 8:45
Blue Is the Warmest Color (R) Fri 3-9:35 Sat 12-9:35 Sun 3:30-9:25 Mon 7:05-9:35 Tue 12-3:30-9:35 Wed 12-3:25-7:05-9:35 Thu 12-2:30-9:35
Castle in the Sky (PG) Sun 4
The Crash Reel (PG) Fri 12:15-2:45-7-9:30 Sat 12:15-2:45-7:05-9:30 Sun 12:15-2:45-7-9:30 Mon 7-9:30 Tue-Thu 12:15-2:45-7-9:30
Howl's Moving Castle (PG) Sat 4
Kiki's Delivery Service (G) Thu 6:30
Miracle on 34th Street (G) Sun 1:30
My Neighbor Totoro (G) Fri 6:30
Nausicaä of the Valley of the Wind (PG) Sat 7
Only Yesterday (PG) Sun 7
The Pervert's Guide to Ideology (PG) Fri-Sun 12:30-3:30-6:45 Mon 6:45 Tue-Thu 12:30-3:30-6:45
Porco Rosso (G) Tue 6:30
Rabid (R) Thu 9
A Serious Man (14A) Tue 8:45
Society (R) Sat 10
Spinning Plates (G) Fri 2:30-7:15 Sat 3:15-7:35 Sun 3:15-7:10-9:35 Mon 7:15 Tue 3:15-7:15 Wed 3:35-7:15 Thu 3:30-7:15
Watermark (G) Fri 12:10-4:45-9:40 Sat 5:25-9:45 Sun 5:30-9:40 Tue 12:10-4:20-9:40 Wed 12:10-4:45-9:40 Thu 4:30-9:40
White Christmas (PG) Sat 1

Albion Cinemas
1530 Albion Rd.

Bullett Raja (PG) Fri-Thu 6
R... Rajkumar (14A) Fri-Thu 6:15-9:15
Ram-Leela (PG) Fri-Thu 9

Queensway
1025 The Queensway

American Hustle (14A) Thu 7:05-10:25
Anchorman 2: The Legend Continues (PG) No Passes Wed 1:10-2:10-4:05-5:05-6:55-8-9:55-10:55 No Passes Thu 1:10-2:10-4:05-5:05-6:55-8-9:50-10:55
Arthur Christmas (G) Sat 11
The Book Thief (PG) Fri 12:20-3:20-6:25-9:35 Sat 3:20-6:25-9:35 Sun 12:20-3:20-6:25 Mon-Tue 12:10-3:20-6:30-9:40
Delivery Man (PG) Fri-Sat 11:45-2:25-5:05-7:50-10:40 Sun 1:40-4:45-7:50-10:35 Mon-Tue 1:20-4:05-6:50-9:35 Wed 12:20-3:05-9:35 Thu 1:15-4
Frozen (G) Fri 11:20-2-4:50-7:40 Sat 11:30-2:15-4:50-7:40 Sun 11:50-3:40-6:55 Mon 1-3:45-6:40 Tue 2-4:45-7:30 Wed 3:45-6:35 Thu 12:55-3:45-6:35 Star & Strollers Screening Wed 1
Frozen 3D (G) Fri-Sat 1-3:50-6:55-9:45 Sun 2:05-4:50-7:40-10:30 Mon 2-4:45-7:30-10:15 Tue 1-3:45-6:40-9:25 Wed-Thu 2-4:45-7:30-10:15
Gravity 3D (PG) Fri 12:40-3:10-5:40-8:10-10:45 Sat 5:40-8:10-10:45 Sun 2:35-5-10:45 Mon 12:40-3:05-9:25 Tue 12:40-3:05-5:30-8-10:25 Wed 9:25 Thu 9:20
The Hobbit: The Desolation of Smaug (PG) No Passes Fri 12:50-4:35-8:20 No Passes Sat-Sun 12:45-4:35-8:20 No Passes Mon-Tue 12:50-4:35-8:20 No Passes Wed-Thu 12:45-4:35-8:20
The Hobbit: The Desolation of Smaug 3D (PG) No Passes Fri-Sun 12-3:30-7:10-10:50 No Passes Mon-Thu 12-3:30-7-10:40 No Passes Fri-Sat 11:10-1:30-2:50-5:15-6:35-9-10:20 No Passes Sun 1:15-2:50-5:15-6:35-9-10:20 No Passes Mon-Thu 1:30-2:30-5:15-6:15-9-10
Holiday Inn (STC) Wed 7
Homefront (14A) Fri-Sat 1:40-4:10-7-9:55 Sun 1:25-4:05-7-9:55 Mon-Tue 2:20-5:05-7:55-10:35 Wed 2:20-5-7:55-10:35 Thu 12:20-3:20
The Hunger Games: Catching Fire (PG) Fri 11:30-12:30-3-4-6:45-7:30-10:10-11 Sat 12:30-1:10-4-6:45-7:30-10:10-11 Sun 11:45-12:30-3:10-3:55-6:45-7:25-9:35-10:10 Mon-Tue 12:30-2:50-3:55-6:25-7:20-9:50-10:45 Wed 12:30-3:55-6:25-7:20-9:50-10:45 Thu 12:30-3-3:55-6:25-7:20-9:45-10:45 Star & Strollers Screening Wed 1
The Metropolitan Opera: Falstaff (STC) Sat 12:55
The Metropolitan Opera: Tosca - Encore (STC) Mon 6:30
Oldboy (18A) Fri-Sat 10:30 Sun 9:45 Mon 10:20 Tue 10:15
Out of the Furnace (14A) Fri 11:15-2:10-5-7:55-10:55 Sat 12:20-5-7:45-10:55 Sun 1:55-5:05-8:10-10:55 Mon-Tue 2:10-5-7:50-10:45 Wed 1:20-4:20-7:25-10:20 Thu 1:50-5-7:50-10:50
Philomena (PG) Fri 12:10-2:40-5:25-8-10:35 Sat 11:15-12:10-2:40-5:25-8-10:35 Sun 12:15-1:35-4:25-7:30-10 Mon-Wed 1:50-4:25-7:10-9:45 Thu 1:35-4:10-6:45-9:30
Puella Magi Madoka Magica the Movie: Rebellion (PG) Sun 12:55
Saving Mr. Banks (PG) No Passes Thu 7:10-10:10
Thor: The Dark World (PG) Fri-Sat 1:20 Sun 1:05 Mon-Thu 1:40
Thor: The Dark World 3D (PG) Fri-Sat 4:20-7:20-10:25 Sun 4:15-7:20-10:25 Mon-Thu 4:50-7:40-10:30
WWE TLC: Tables, Ladders and Chairs (STC) Sun 8

Woodbine Centre
500 Rexdale Blvd.

American Hustle (14A) Thu 7-9:45
Anchorman 2: The Legend Continues (PG) Tue 9:30 Wed-Thu 1:20-4-6:45-9:30
The Croods (G) Sat 11
Frozen (G) Fri-Thu 1:15-4:15-7-9:25
The Hobbit: The Desolation of Smaug (PG) No Passes Fri-Thu 1-1:30-4:30-5-8-9
Homefront (14A) Fri-Wed 1:10-4:10-6:55-9:45 Thu 1:10-4:10
The Hunger Games: Catching Fire (PG) Fri-Thu 12:45-3:45-6:40-9:40
The Impossible (PG) Sat 10
Thor: The Dark World (PG) Fri-Mon 1:20-4-6:45-9:15 Tue 1:20-4-6:45
Tyler Perry's A Madea Christmas (14A) Fri-Thu 1:05-3:55-7:05-9:35

Kingsway Theatre
3030 Bloor St. West

Blue Is the Warmest Color (R) Fri-Thu 9:10
Dallas Buyers Club (18A) Fri-Thu 7:10
Enough Said (PG) Fri 12 Mon-Thu 12
Free Birds (G) Sat-Sun 12
Jingle Bell Rocks (PG) Fri-Thu 6:40
Last Vegas (PG) Fri-Thu 3:35
Let the Fire Burn (14A) Fri-Thu 5:05
Muscle Shoals (PG) Fri-Thu 1:25-9:30
Night Train to Lisbon (14A) Fri-Thu 5:15
Rush (14A) Fri-Thu 1:30
Wadjda (PG) Fri-Thu 3:20
When Jews Were Funny (14A) Fri-Thu 12-8:10

Humber Cinema
2:2442 Bloor St. West

Anchorman 2: The Legend Continues (PG) Wed-Thu 3:20-6:40-9:35
Frozen (G) Fri 3:10-6:40-9:10 Sat-Mon 12:40-3:10-6:40-9:10 Tue 3:10-6:40-9:10 Wed-Thu 3:50-6:50-9:15
The Hobbit: The Desolation of Smaug (PG) Fri 3:35-6:50-10 Sat-Sun 12:20-3:35-6:50-10 Mon 3:35-6:50-10 Tue 12:20-3:35-6:50-10 Wed-Thu 3-6:30-9:45 Mon 1
The Hunger Games: Catching Fire (PG) Fri 3:45-6:30-9:35 Sat-Mon 12:30-3:45-6:30-9:35 Tue 12:45-3:45-6:30-9:35 Wed-Thu 3:10-9:25
Philomena (PG) Fri 3:20-7:10-9:25 Sat-Tue 12:50-3:20-7:10-9:25 Wed-Thu 7

Beach Cinemas
1651 Queen St. E.

American Hustle (14A) Thu 7-10
Anchorman 2: The Legend Continues (PG) No Passes Wed-Thu 7:30-10:20
Frozen (G) Sat-Sun 12:10
Frozen 3D (G) Fri 3:40-6:40-9:15 Sat-Sun 2:45-5:20-7:50-10:20 Mon-Thu 6:30-9
The Hobbit: The Desolation of Smaug (PG) No Passes Fri 5-8:40 No Passes Sat-Sun 1-5-8:40 No Passes Mon-Thu 8:30
The Hobbit: The Desolation of Smaug 3D (PG) No Passes Fri 3:30-7-10:30 No Passes Sat-Sun 12-3:30-7-10:30 No Passes Mon-Thu 6:45-10:15
The Hunger Games: Catching Fire (PG) Fri 3:50-7:15-10:40 Sat-Sun 12:30-3:45-7:15-10:40 Mon-Thu 7:15-10:30
The Metropolitan Opera: Falstaff (STC) Sat 12:55

Beach Cinemas
1651 Queen St. E.

Philomena (PG) Fri 4-6:40-9:10 Sat-Sun 1:30-4-6:40-9:10 Mon-Wed 6:40-9:10
Thor: The Dark World (PG) Sun 1:15
Thor: The Dark World 3D (PG) Fri-Sun 4:30-7:30-10:40 Mon-Tue 7:30-10:20

Fox Theatre
2236 Queen St. E.

About Time (14A) Fri 7 Sat 4:15-7 Sun 6:45 Mon 9
Diana (PG) Wed 7 Thu 9:15
Home Alone (PG) Sun 2
Meet Me in St. Louis (STC) Sat-Sun 12
Muscle Shoals (PG) Tue 7 Wed 9:15 Thu 7
Watermark (G) Fri-Sat 9:30 Sun 4:30 Mon 7 Tue 9:15

Empress Walk
5095 Yonge St.

12 Years a Slave (14A) Fri 3:50-6:50-9:50 Sat 6:50-9:50 Sun 12:40-3:50-6:50-9:50 Mon-Wed 3:50-6:50-9:50 Thu 3:50
American Hustle (14A) Thu 7:10-10:15
Anchorman 2: The Legend Continues (PG) No Passes Wed-Thu 4:30-7:30-10:20
The Book Thief (PG) Fri 3:35-6:35-9:35 Sat 7:20-10:30 Sun 12:30-3:35-6:35-9:35 Mon 10:25 Tue-Wed 3:35-6:35-9:35 Thu 3:35
Frozen (G) Sat 11:40-2:25 Sun 11:40 Mon 7:40
Frozen 3D (G) Fri-Sat 5:10-7:50-10:25 Sun 2:25-5:10-7:50-10:25 Mon 3-10:25 Tue-Thu 5:10-7:50-10:25
The Hobbit: The Desolation of Smaug (PG) No Passes Fri 5:20-9 No Passes Sat-Sun 1:45-5:20-9 No Passes Mon-Thu 5:20-9
The Hobbit: The Desolation of Smaug 3D (PG) No Passes Fri 3-6:30-10 No Passes Sat-Sun 11:30-3-6:30-10 No Passes Mon-Thu 3-6:30-10
The Hobbit: The Desolation of Smaug: An IMAX 3D Experience (PG) No Passes Fri 3:30-7-10:30 No Passes Sat-Sun 12-3:30-7-10:30 No Passes Mon-Thu 3:30-7-10:30
The Hunger Games: Catching Fire (PG) Fri 4:10-7:30-10:45 Sat-Sun 12:50-4:10-7:30-10:45 Mon-Thu 4:10-7:30-10:45
The Metropolitan Opera: Falstaff (STC) Sat 12:55
The Metropolitan Opera: Tosca - Encore (STC) Mon 6:30
Out of the Furnace (14A) Fri 3:55-7:10-10:10 Sat-Sun 1-3:55-7:10-10:10 Mon-Thu 3:55-7:10-10:10
Philomena (PG) Fri 4-6:40-9:20 Sat-Sun 1:30-4-6:40-9:20 Mon-Thu 4-6:40-9:20
Saving Mr. Banks (PG) No Passes Thu 7-10
Thor: The Dark World (PG) Sat-Sun 1:20
Thor: The Dark World 3D (PG) Fri-Tue 4:20-7:20-10:20

SilverCity Yorkdale 6
3401 Dufferin St.

Anchorman 2: The Legend Continues (PG) No Passes Wed-Thu 1:30-4:30-7:30-10:30
Arthur Christmas (G) Sat 11
Frozen (G) Fri-Sat 12:05-6:20 Sun-Thu 12:10-6:30
Frozen 3D (G) Fri-Sat 1-4-7-10 Sun-Thu 1:15-4:15-7:15-10:15
The Hobbit: The Desolation of Smaug (PG) No Passes Fri-Thu 1:30-5:20-9:10
The Hobbit: The Desolation of Smaug 3D (PG) No Passes Fri 12:50-3-4:40-6:40-8:30-10:20 No Passes Sat 11:30-12:50-3-4:40-6:40-8:30-10:20 No Passes Sun-Tue 12:50-2:20-4:40-6:10-8:30-10 No Passes Wed-Thu 2:20-6:10-10 No Passes Fri-Sat 12-3:30-7:10-10:50 No Passes Sun-Thu 12-3:30-7-10:30
Homefront (14A) Fri 2:35-5:10-7:45-10:30 Sat 11:55-2:35-5:10-7:45-10:30 Sun-Thu 1:45-4:20-7-9:55
The Hunger Games: Catching Fire (PG) Fri-Sat 12:30-2:55-3:55-7:20-9:30-10:45 Sun-Thu 12-2:55-3:25-6:50-9:30-10:25
Thor: The Dark World (PG) Fri-Thu 12:45
Thor: The Dark World 3D (PG) Fri-Thu 3:50-6:50-9:50
Tyler Perry's A Madea Christmas (14A) Fri 1:40-4:30-7:25-10:10 Sat 11:15-1:40-4:30-7:25-10:10 Sun-Thu 1:40-4:30-7:25-10:10

Silvercity Fairview
1800 Sheppard Ace. E

Anchorman 2: The Legend Continues (PG) No Passes Wed 1:05-4:05-7:05-10:05 No Passes Thu 1-4:05-7:05-10:05
Arthur Christmas (G) Sat 11
Delivery Man (PG) Fri 2:20-5-7:40-10:20 Sat-Sun 5-7:40-10:20 Mon 1:30-4:10-6:50-9:40 Tue 2:20-5-7:40-10:20 Wed 4:10-6:50-9:40 Thu 1:30-4:10-6:50-9:40 Star & Strollers Screening Wed 1
Frozen (G) Fri 1:50-4:35 Sat 11:10-1:50-4:35 Sun 1:50-4:35 Mon 1-3:45 Tue 1:50-4:35 Wed-Thu 1:40
Frozen 3D (G) Fri-Sun 1:15-4-7:10-9:55 Mon 1:40-4:25-7:10-9:55 Tue 1:15-4-7:10-9:55 Wed-Thu 4:25-7:10-9:55
The Hobbit: The Desolation of Smaug (PG) No Passes Fri 1:40-5:20-9 No Passes Sat-Sun 1:20-5:20-9 No Passes Mon 1:10-4:40-8:10 No Passes Tue 1:40-5:20-9 No Passes Wed-Thu 1:10-4:40-8:10
The Hobbit: The Desolation of Smaug 3D (PG) No Passes Fri 12-3-3:30-6:30-7-10-10:30 No Passes Sat 11:20-12-3-3:30-6:30-7-10-10:30 No Passes Sun 11:30-12-3-3:30-6:30-7-10-10:30 No Passes Mon 2:10-3:10-5:40-6:40-9:10-10:10 No Passes Tue 12-3-3:30-6:30-7-10-10:30 No Passes Wed-Thu 2:10-3:10-5:40-6:40-9:10-10:10
Holiday Inn (STC) Wed 7
The Hunger Games: Catching Fire (PG) Fri 12:05-3:20-6:45-7:20-10:10-10:35 Sat 11:50-3:15-6:45-7:20-10:10-10:35 Sun 12:05-3:20-6:45-7:20-10:10-10:35 Mon 1:15-4:30-6:30-8-9:50 Tue 12:05-3:20-6:45-7:20-10:10-10:35 Wed-Thu 1:15-4:30-8
The Metropolitan Opera: Falstaff (STC) Sat 12:55
Philomena (PG) Fri 12:10-2:40-5:10-7:50-10:15 Sat 5:10-7:50-10:15 Sun 12:10-2:40-5:10-7:50-10:15 Mon 1:50-4:15-7-9:30 Tue 12:10-2:40-5:10-7:50-10:15 Wed 4:15-9:30 Thu 1:50-4:15-7-9:30 Star & Strollers Screening Wed 1
Puella Magi Madoka Magica the Movie: Rebellion (PG) Sun 12:55
Thor: The Dark World (PG) Fri-Sun 1:30 Mon 1:20 Tue 1:30 Wed-Thu 1:20
Thor: The Dark World 3D (PG) Fri-Sun 4:30-7:30-10:25 Mon 4:20-7:20-10:15 Tue 4:30-7:30-10:25 Wed-Thu 4:20-7:20-10:15

Coliseum Scarborough
300 Borough Dr.

American Hustle (14A) Thu 7-10:10
Anchorman 2: The Legend Continues (PG) No Passes Wed-Thu 2:10-5:05-8-10:55
Arthur Christmas (G) Sat 11
The Best Man Holiday (14A) Fri 1:05-4:05-7:05-10:05 Sat 4:35-7:30-10:35 Sun 1:05-4:05-10:05 Mon-Thu 1:05-4:05-7:05-10:05
Frozen (G) Fri 11:45-2:45 Sat 1:15-4 Sun 11:45-2:45 Mon 12:15-3:15 Tue 11:45-2:45 Wed-Thu 12:45
Frozen 3D (G) Fri 12:45-3:45-6:45-9:45 Sat 11:15-2-4:45-7:35-10:15 Sun-Tue 12:45-3:45-6:45-9:45 Wed-Thu 3:45-6:45-9:45
The Hobbit: The Desolation of Smaug (PG) No Passes Fri 1-4:40-8:15 No Passes Sat 1-5-8:30 No Passes Sun-Thu 1-4:40-8:15
The Hobbit: The Desolation of Smaug 3D (PG) No Passes Fri-Sun 12-3:30-7:10-10:50 No Passes Mon-Thu 12-3:30-7-10:40 No Passes Fri 11:30-1:45-3-5:20-6:40-9-10:20 No Passes Sat 11:30-1:45-3-5:30-6:40-9-10:20 No Passes Sun 11:30-1:45-3-5:20-6:40-9-10:20 No Passes Mon 1:45-3-5:20-6:40-9-10:20 No Passes Tue 11:30-1:45-3-5:20-6:40-9-10:20 No Passes Wed-Thu 1:45-3-5:20-6:40-9-10:20
Homefront (14A) Fri 2-4:45-7:30-10:15 Sat 11:45-2:15-4:50-7:20-9:50 Sun 2-4:45-7:30 Mon-Thu 2-4:45-7:30-10:15
The Hunger Games: Catching Fire (PG) Fri 12:30-4-6:20-7:15-9:40-10:40 Sat 12:30-4-6:45-7:15-10-10:40 Sun 12:30-4-6:20-7:15-9:40-10:40 Mon 12:30-3:50-6:20-7:10-9:40-10:30 Tue 12:30-4-6:20-7:15-9:40-10:45 Wed-Thu 12:30-3:50-7:10-10:30
The Metropolitan Opera: Falstaff (STC) Sat 12:55
Out of the Furnace (14A) Fri-Sat 1:25-4:25-7:25-10:25 Sun 1-4:25-7:05-10:15 Mon-Thu 1:25-4:25-7:25-10:25
Puella Magi Madoka Magica the Movie: Rebellion (PG) Sun 12:55
Thor: The Dark World (PG) Fri-Sat 12:55 Mon-Thu 12:55
Thor: The Dark World 3D (PG) Fri-Wed 3:55-6:55-9:55 Thu 3:55
Tyler Perry's A Madea Christmas (14A) Fri-Sun 11:50-2:30-5:10-7:45-10:30 Mon 1:45-4:30-7:15-10 Tue 11:50-2:30-5:10-7:45-10:30 Wed-Thu 1:45-4:30-7:15-10
WWE TLC: Tables, Ladders and Chairs (STC) Sun 8

Eglinton Town Centre
1901 Eglinton Ave. E.

12 Years a Slave (14A) Fri 12:15-3:20-6:30-9:50 Sat 3:20-6:30-9:50 Sun 12:15-3:20-9:50 Mon-Tue 3:30-6:35-9:45
Anchorman 2: The Legend Continues (PG) No Passes Wed 3:45-4:30-6:45-7:30-9:45-10:30 No Passes Thu 1:35-3:45-4:30-6:45-7:30-9:45-10:30
Arthur Christmas (G) Sat 11
The Book Thief (PG) Fri-Sat 12:40-3:45-6:50-9:55 Sun 12:40-3:45-6:50 Mon-Tue 3:45-6:50-9:55

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The Hunger Games: Catching Fire. CONTRIBUTED

Dallas Buyers Club (18A) Fri 1:20-4:15-7:15-10:10 Sat 1:10-4:15-7:15-10:10 Sun 1:20-4:15-7:15-10:10 Mon-Tue 4:15-7:15-10:10 Wed-Thu 3:50-6:50-9:40
Frozen (G) Fri 1:40-4:20-7 Sat 11:10-1:40-4:20-7 Sun 1:40-4:20-7 Mon-Thu 3:55-6:40 Star & Strollers Screening Thu 1
Frozen 3D (G) Fri-Sun 12:05-2:35-5:15-7:50-10:25 Mon-Wed 4:40-7:25-10 Thu 2-4:40-7:25-10:10
The Hobbit: The Desolation of Smaug (PG) No Passes Fri 1-2:15-4:30-5:50-8:15-9:30 No Passes Sat 1:30-2:15-5:10-5:50-8:45-9:30 No Passes Sun 1-2:15-4:30-5:50-8:15-9:30 No Passes Mon-Wed 4:30-5:50-8:15-9:30 No Passes Thu 2:15-4:30-5:50-8:15-9:30
The Hobbit: The Desolation of Smaug 3D (PG) No Passes Fri 1:30-5:10-8:45 No Passes Sat 1-4:30-8:15 No Passes Sun 1:30-5:10-8:45 No Passes Mon-Wed 5:10-8:45 No Passes Thu 1:30-5:10-8:45 No Passes Fri-Sun 11:30-3-6:40-10:20 No Passes Mon-Wed 4-7:45 No Passes Thu 2:45-6:20-10 No Passes Fri-Sun 12-3:30-7:10-10:50 No Passes Mon-Thu 3:30-7-10:30
Holiday Inn (STC) Wed 7
Homefront (14A) Fri-Sun 12:35-3:10-5:40-8:20-11 Mon-Tue 5:05-7:40-10:20 Wed 4:20-10:20 Thu 1:20-4
The Hunger Games: Catching Fire (PG) Fri 12:30-4-7:20-9:45-10:45 Sat 12:50-4-7:20-9:45-10:45 Sun 12:30-4-7:20-9:45-10:45 Mon-Thu 3:35-6:55-9:20-10:20
The Metropolitan Opera: Falstaff (STC) Sat 12:55
Out of the Furnace (14A) Fri 1:50-4:45-7:40-10:40 Sat 12:20-5-8:05-11 Sun 1:50-4:45-7:40-10:40 Mon-Wed 4:05-7:05-10 Thu 1:10-4:05-7:05-10:05
Philomena (PG) Fri-Sun 11:45-2:20-4:50-7:30-10 Mon-Wed 4:25-7:10-9:50 Thu 1:45-4:25-7:10-9:50
Saving Mr. Banks (PG) No Passes Thu 7-10:10
Thor: The Dark World (PG) Fri-Sun 2:10 Thu 1:50
Thor: The Dark World 3D (PG) Fri-Sun 5:05-8-10:55 Mon-Thu 4:45-7:35-10:25
Tyler Perry's A Madea Christmas (14A) Fri 11:50-2:25-5-7:45-10:30 Sat 11:50-2:25-5:05-7:45-10:30 Sun 11:50-2:25-5-7:45-10:30 Mon-Tue 5-7:30-10:15 Wed 4:10-7:20-10:15 Thu 5-7:40-10:15 Star & Strollers Screening Thu 1
WWE TLC: Tables, Ladders and Chairs (STC) Sun 8

401 & Morningside 785 Milner Ave.

Anchorman 2: The Legend Continues (PG) No Passes Wed-Thu 5:30-8:20
Arthur Christmas (G) Sat 11
The Best Man Holiday (14A) Fri 4:05-7:05-9:55 Sat-Sun 1:15-4:05-7:05-9:55 Mon 5:20-8:10 Tue 4:05-7:05-9:55 Wed-Thu 5:20-8:10
Frozen (G) Fri 4:15-6:45 Sat 11:10-1:40-4:15-6:45 Sun 1:40-4:15-6:45 Mon 5:10-7:40 Tue 4:15-6:45 Wed-Thu 5:10-7:40
Frozen 3D (G) Fri 5:15-7:50-10:20 Sat-Sun 12:05-2:40-5:15-7:50-10:20 Mon 5:45-8:20 Tue 5:15-7:50-10:20 Wed-Thu 5:45-8:20
Gravity 3D (PG) Fri 5:45-8:15-10:35 Sat 1-3:15-5:45-8:15-10:35 Sun 1-3:15-5:45-8:05-10:20 Mon 6:05-8:30 Tue 5:45-8:15-10:35
The Hobbit: The Desolation of Smaug (PG) No Passes Fri 5-6-8:30-9:35 No Passes Sat 11:05-1:30-2:30-5-6-8:30-9:35 No Passes Sun 1:30-2:30-5-6-8:30-9:35 No Passes Mon 6:15-7:30 No Passes Tue 5-6-8:30-9:35 No Passes Wed-Thu 6:15-7:30
The Hobbit: The Desolation of Smaug 3D (PG) No Passes Fri 4-7-10:30 No Passes Sat 12-3:30-7-10:30 No Passes Sun 12-3:30-7-10:20 No Passes Mon 5-8:25 No Passes Tue 4-7-10:30 No Passes Wed-Thu 5-8:25
Homefront (14A) Fri 5:30-8:05-10:35 Sat 12:30-3-5:30-8:05-10:35 Sun 12:30-3-5:30-7:50-10:15 Mon 6-8:30 Tue 5:30-8:05-10:35 Wed-Thu 6-8:30
The Hunger Games: Catching Fire (PG) Fri 4-7:15-9:20-10:25 Sat 12:45-3:55-7:15-9:20-10:25 Sun 12:45-3:55-7:10-9:20-10:15 Mon 5:05-8:15 Tue 4-7:15-9:20-10:25 Wed-Thu 5:05-8:15
Thor: The Dark World (PG) Fri 4:15 Sat-Sun 1:50-4:45 Mon 5:15 Tue 4:15 Wed-Thu 5:15
Thor: The Dark World 3D (PG) Fri-Sat 7:30-10:30 Sun 7:30-10:15 Mon 7:50 Tue 7:30-10:30 Wed-Thu 7:50
Tyler Perry's A Madea Christmas (14A) Fri 5:10-7:40-10:10 Sat 11:20-12:15-2:45-5:10-7:40-10:10 Sun 12:15-2:45-5:10-7:40-10:10 Mon 5:30-8 Tue 5:10-7:40-10:10 Wed-Thu 5:30-8

Woodside Cinemas 1571 Sandhurst Circle

R... Rajkumar (14A) Fri 6:15-9:15 Sat-Sun 3:15-6:15-9:15 Mon-Thu 4-7
Ram-Leela (PG) Fri 6-9 Sat-Sun 3-6-9 Mon-Thu 4-7
Thagaraaru (STC) Fri-Sun 6:30 Mon-Thu 4
Vidiyum Munn (STC) Fri 9:30 Sat-Sun 3:30-9:30 Mon-Thu 7

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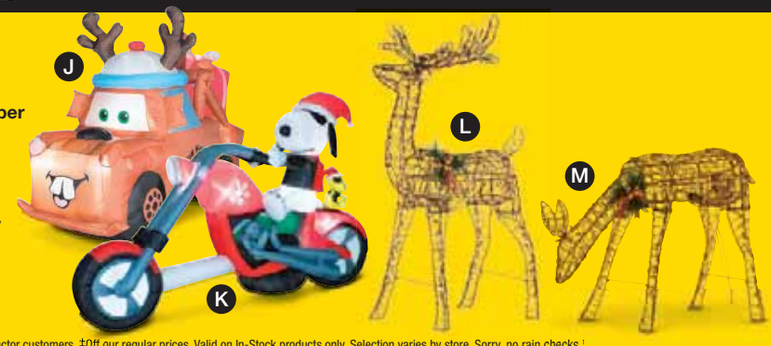
M. 34" Animated Grapevine Grazing Doe (1000660854) NOW $44.99 WAS $89.97



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Honoured as Billboard's woman of year, Pink says husband deserves some credit

Interview. A top tour, MTV awards and millions of units sold has the pop act flying high as the accolades keep rolling in

While she's excited her ballad Just Give Me a Reason is nominated for the song of the year Grammy, Pink says she believes her husband deserves some credit for its success. The track, which topped the Billboard Hot 100 chart for three weeks, is about holding on to a troubled relationship.

"It means everything because it's a conversation between lovers fighting the good fight and that's been our life," Pink said in an interview Tuesday, standing next to her motorcycle racer husband, Carey Hart. "Our family is everything to us."

The 34-year-old often details their rocky relationship in her music.

"At the end of the day I crawl onto his lap and complain, so if someone wants to award me for that, they should give him the award," she said.

Pink was in great spirits Tuesday in New York City, where Billboard named the pop star its woman of the year.

"It's been a long road," she said. "It's been a roller coaster and I'm on board for the rises and the falls of it all."

Pink's successful year includes a top-grossing international tour and awards, an MTV Video Music Award among them. The Truth About Love, her sixth album released last year, has sold 1.8 million units.

Just Give Me a Reason, which has sold 4 million tracks and features Nate Ruess of fun., is also nominated for best pop duo or group performance at the Jan. 26 Grammy Awards.

Pink, who has won four Grammys, said being up for the coveted song of the year is unreal.

"That's a new thing for me," she said. "It's a pinch-me moment. I'm afraid to cross the street."

Her hit will battle anthems from Katy Perry, Bruno Mars, Lorde and Macklemore & Ryan Lewis.

But at the Billboard event, camaraderie was key: Pink congratulated R&B singer Janelle Monae, who was honoured as music's rising star, while sister duo Tegan and Sara and Scottish band Chvrches performed. Debbie Harry, Kimberly Perry of the Band Perry, Andy Cohen, Matt Lauer and Melanie Fiona attended the event.

Pink's The Truth About Love Tour wraps Jan. 31 in Las Vegas.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Pink performs during her The Truth About Love Tour. It wraps up Jan. 31 in Las Vegas.. HANDOUT

Who listens to the radio?

SOUND CHECK
Alan Cross
scene@metronews.ca

Here are three more examples of stuff you'll never, ever hear played over the airwaves

I'm Not a Young Man Anymore – The Velvet Underground

It was only performed live once and never turned up on any bootlegs. From the 45th anniversary reissue of White Light/White Heat. One needs to hear it to believe it.

Sweet Child O' Mine – Some three year-old kid

You'll be blown away by this kid playing along to Gun N' Roses. To be that coordinated and musical at age three is almost alien.

Krampus Carol – Craterface

Given that the song is based on a mythical Satan-like creature who punished naughty children at Christmastime, this isn't your grandma's Christmas carol.

Did anyone order Kevin a plain cheese?

Home Alone star. Macaulay Culkin forms Velvet Underground cover band, names it Pizza Underground, sings about the 'za

Whenever you see that Macaulay Culkin is trending on a search engine or your social media feed, it's a little scary.

What with gossip columnists constantly quoting sources who are apparently close to the Home Alone star, saying that he's got a massive drug problem and is going to die any day now. Though, we should point out that what we're about to report doesn't really dispel any notion of a massive drug problem, but at least he appears to be using these drugs productively: to form a Velvet Underground cover band and sing about pizza.

Macaulay Culkin. GETTY IMAGES

His latest project, which is so awesomely absurd that we'd love it even if it didn't involve him, is called the Pizza Underground, and they dress like the Velvet Underground, and they play songs that sound a lot like existent Velvet Underground songs (as well as Lou Reed songs and a Nico song thrown in for good measure), but with all of the words changed so that the songs are all about pizza.

Pizza is sung to the chorus melody of Sweet Jane, Papa John Says is sung to the tune of Stephanie Says and I'm Beginning to Eat the Slice, is (pretty awesomely, obviously) sung to the tune of I'm Beginning to See the Light.

Lou Reed would definitely be proud. PAT HEALY/MWN

Best lyrics

Some of our favorite lyrics

- **Lyric #1.** 'Here she comes, you'd better hide your slice'
- **Lyric #2.** 'Jack, he eats the cheese, Jane, she eats the zone'

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METRO DISH

OUR TAKE ON THE WORLD OF CELEBRITIES

Barron Hilton beating

Paris-Lindsay smackdown still has legs

It looks like Lindsay Lohan might not be in the clear just yet for the alleged beating of Barron Hilton in Miami last week, as the hotel heir — and younger brother to Paris Hilton — had his lawyer reach out to Miami Beach police to discuss their investigation, according to Radar Online.

"A meeting is being scheduled for Mr. Hilton to give a formal statement about the incident," a police spokesman says. Hilton reportedly wants Lohan's friend Ray LeMoine charged for the attack, but he'd initially backed off. "He has been made aware that there are incriminating photos that, if released, could tell a very different side of what took place," a source says. While Lohan hasn't currently been implicated in the incident, sources say Hilton believes she ordered LeMoine to beat him up.

Investigation into Walker crash could take 90 days

Funeral services will be held this weekend for Paul Walker, but the cause of the Nov. 30 car crash that claimed the lives of the Fast and Furious star and his friend, Roger Rodas, could remain a mystery for up to 90 days as authorities investigate, according to the Hollywood Reporter. A police spokesman says that any reports at this point about what caused the Porsche Carrera GT Rodas was driving to strike a light pole, two trees and a street sign are purely speculative. A coroner's report has already ruled the deaths to be accidental.

Paul Walker

Madonna. ALL PHOTOS GETTY IMAGES

Madge splits with (much) younger beau

Madonna has split up with boyfriend Brahim Zaibat after three years of dating, the singer's rep confirms to Us Weekly. "It ran its course," a source says. "They were dancing and working together all the time, and then they barely saw each other." Madonna first started dating the then-25-year-old dancer in 2010 before hiring him on as a backup dancer for her 2012 world tour.

KFed reproduces... again

Kevin Federline is going to be a dad again. The former back-up dancer and husband to Britney Spears is expecting his second child with wife Victoria Prince, which will make six kids total for Federline, according to E! News. Federline is also the father to Spears' two sons, Jayden James and Sean Preston, as well as a son and daughter with ex-girlfriend Shar Jackson.

Kevin Federline

Twitter

@SethMacFarlane
And the award for most badass name goes to Randolph Mantooth.

@joeldavidmoore
If Justin Bieber just tweeted 'fart' would it break the internet?

@bobsaget
This is that loving time of year where you really want to be around the people who didn't screw you over.

The right fare for the right Student ID

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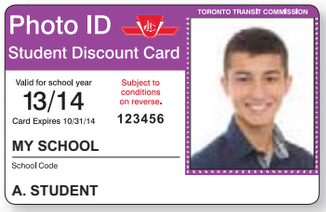

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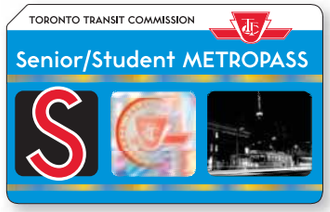

Or TICKET, CASH FARE, or WEEKLY PASS

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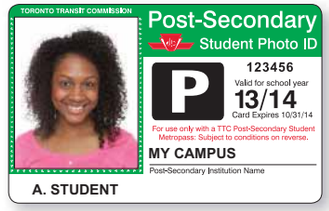

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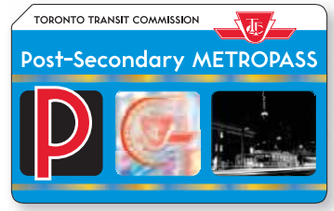

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For more information on passes, fares and eligibility, visit www.ttc.ca.

TORONTO TRANSIT COMMISSION

Liquid Assets

Whites that like variety

LIQUID ASSETS
Peter Rockwell
@therealwineguy
liquidassets@eastlink.ca

As sure as Rudolph was a reindeer, you're going to feel some level of stress over the holidays — possibly when choosing a wine to match with your family feast.

Since Charles was a little Dickens, turkey has been the headliner. Unfortunately, the bird never travels alone. It's always surrounded by sweet and savoury sides that can throw a curve ball at even the most accommodating wine match.

If you're a white wine fan, think sparkling. A fresh bubbly is the great equalizer, pairing with just about everything (even if you decide on red meat or seafood this Xmas).

The classic turkey-meets-stuffing-meets-cranberry scenario that will play out on most tables is a lover of full-bodied chardonnay. Try one with a touch of oaky goodness from Australia, Chile, Canada or California.

Whites with a hint of residual sugar like savoury and sweet. The balanced, juicy fruit of Moselland's 2012 Ars Vitis Riesling ($9.95 - $16.99) is a guaranteed crowd pleaser that looks as good as it tastes.

Next week: My red picks. **PRICES REFLECT THE RANGE ACROSS THE COUNTRY. SOME PRODUCTS MAY NOT BE AVAILABLE IN ALL PROVINCES.**

This recipe serves six. MATTHEW MEAD/ THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Fancy doesn't have to mean complicated

Spinach-stuffed Chicken Thighs. This dish makes it possible to dazzle guests without much effort

1. In skillet over medium heat, wilt spinach until reduced. Let cool until easily handled, then squeeze moisture from spinach. Finely chop. You should have about 1/3 cup. Set aside.

2. Using paring knife, remove skin and bone from 2 chicken thighs. Place them in food processor and pulse until finely chopped. Add ice and process until absorbed. Add sour cream and pulse again until well mixed. Add spinach, 1/2 teaspoon salt, fennel, lemon zest, nutmeg and 1/8 teaspoon black pepper. Pulse, scraping down sides, until mixed. Set aside.

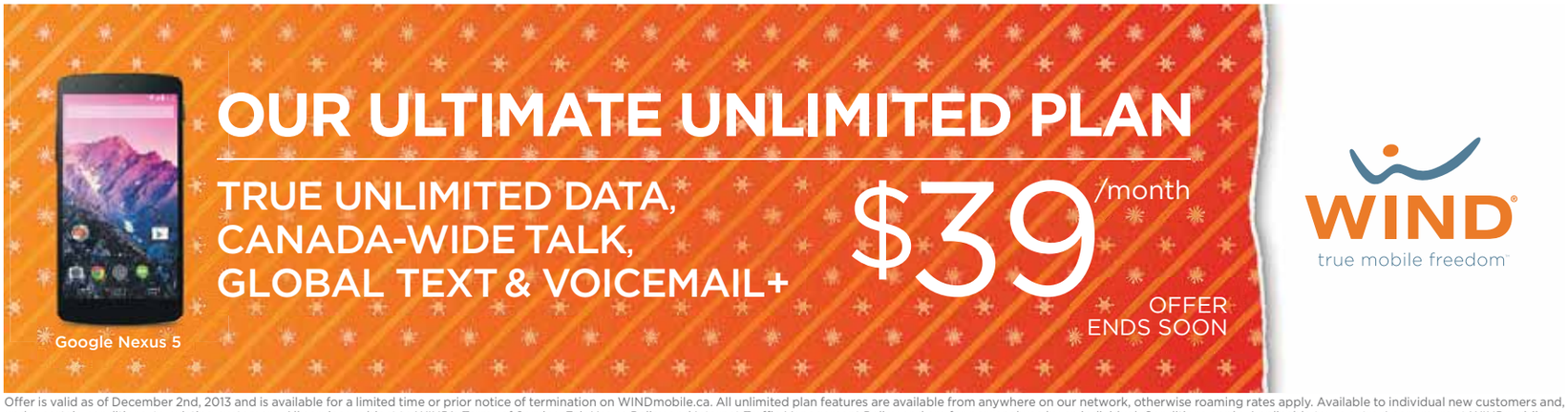
3. Arrange remaining thighs on cutting board, skin side up. Carefully pull back skin, leaving attached on one end. Divide ground chicken and spinach mixture evenly between 6 thighs, spreading it evenly. Stretch skin back over filling on each thigh. Arrange stuffed thighs on plate, cover with plastic wrap and chill for at least 1 hour and up to overnight.

4. When ready to cook, heat the oven to 400 F. In oven-safe skillet over medium-high, heat the oil. Season chicken skin lightly with salt and pepper, then add the chicken to the skillet, skin side down. Cook until skin is golden brown, then use tongs to turn thighs skin side up. Place skillet in the oven and roast for 25 minutes, or until the thighs reach 160 F.

5. Remove skillet from the oven and cover with foil. Let rest 5 minutes before transferring each thigh to serving plate. Spoon any juices from skillet over the thighs before serving. **THE ASSOCIATED PRESS/ SARA MOULTON'S EVERYDAY FAMILY DINNERS.**

Ingredients

- 5 oz baby spinach
- 2 lbs skin-on, bone-in chicken thighs (8 thighs)
- 2 tbsp crushed ice
- 1/3 cup low-fat sour cream
- Kosher salt
- 1/2 tsp fennel seeds, crushed
- 1 tsp grated lemon zest
- 1/8 tsp grated nutmeg
- Ground black pepper
- 1 tbsp extra-virgin olive oil



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Just Opened: Gilead Wine Bar

Jamie Kennedy is tempting us again, adding in dinner service to his much beloved Gilead Cafe and calling the concept Gilead Wine Bar. It recently opened in the evenings at 4 Gilead Place, sharing the same address as the cafe concept. On the menu are insanely reasonably priced eats like red-wine braised short rib and galantine of chicken.

Just Opened: Duke's Refresher + Bar

At 382 Yonge St. right at the corner of Gerrard you'll now find Duke's Refresher + Bar, a new restobar concept that's bringing a better selection of eats to the otherwise dismal stretch of Yonge Street. With an "epic breakfast" on weekends, and lunch and dinner service throughout the week, expect Duke's to become a hotspot for tourists and locals alike.

Just Opened: Brooklyn Tavern

More upscale bar food comes to Leslieville's quaint area in the form of Brooklyn Tavern, found at 1079 Queen St. E. An approachable North American-themed menu forms the basis of the eats, ranging from giant meatballs filled with pulled pork to popcorn with smoked paprika and Manchego cheese. Over 30 beers round out the Brooklyn Tavern experience.

Steam Whistle hosts farmers

Support local farmers in the coolest venue possible when Steam Whistle Brewery launches their Winter Farmers Market. At the brewery's DT digs (255 Bremner Blvd.) from Dec. 22 to Feb. 3, 2014, you'll find a consortium of farm-fresh delights like apples, baked goods, root vegetables, organic meat and cheese, beauty products, maple and honey products, all while you sip a cold one and shop.

Handel's Messiah by Toronto Symphony Orchestra

The Toronto Symphony Orchestra, directed by Christopher Warren-Green, joins forces with the 140 voices of the heavenly Toronto Mendelssohn Choir and internationally renowned vocal soloists for a glorious and stirring performance of this holiday tradition. With shows Dec 17 to 22, this is one classical oratorio you don't want to miss!

Holiday Swing Time

On Dec 20 at Palais Royale (1601 Lake Shore Blvd. W.), get ready for a jiving night of live swing music featuring vocalists like Alex Pangman, Terra Hazelton, Roger Clown, and Drew Jurecka, backed by the band directed by Peter Hill. Seasonal songs, traditional jazz, tin pan alley classics, and ditties from the Great American Songbook will all make their way to your ears.

Handmade holiday cheer

Popular daytime TV hosts Steven Sabados and Chris Hyndman are getting into the holiday spirit and are ready to help add glitz and glamour to your holidays with these clever tips. For more holiday season DIY decor ideas, watch Steven & Chris weekdays at 2 p.m. on CBC.

ALL PHOTOS AND TEXT PROVIDED BY STEVEN AND CHRIS

DIY deer head

The rustic charm of winter is timeless, yet seemingly effortlessly chic. Here's a rustic holiday look you can create at home with simple supplies — the kids can help too!

- Deer head template (all the templates are available at cbc.ca/stevenandchris)
- Foam core/cardboard
- Spray glue
- Utility knife
- Vintage wrapping paper or wallpaper

Method:
1. Download, print and cut out the template on your home printer.
2. Once you've cut out the template, trace the image onto foam core or cardboard.
3. Carefully cut out each of the pieces using a utility knife.
4. Find some great vintage wallpaper or cool wrapping paper. Spray glue the wall paper/wrapping paper onto the pieces of foam core/cardboard.
5. Carefully fit all the pieces together, mount on the wall, and you're done.

Golden apple holiday cocktail

Who can resist a splash of bubbly this time of year? Toast to good cheer this season with one of our favourite holiday cocktails.

- Raw sugar
- 1.5 oz brandy
- 0.5 oz Goldschlager
- Apple cider
- Ice
- Sparkling wine

Method:
1. Wet the rim of your champagne flute with lemon and dip into a shallow bowl of raw sugar.
2. Fill a shaker with ice. Add 1.5 oz brandy, 0.5 oz Goldschlager and apple cider. Shake well and pour into glass.
3. Top with sparkling wine and enjoy!

Do you think you might have Seasonal Affective Disorder (SAD)?

Are you interested in how the seasons change your mood and affect the brain?

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Inclusion criteria:
- Male or female, ages 18-40, in good physical health
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THE PERFECT TURKEY

9 SIMPLE STEPS TO COOK THE PERFECT BIRD

1 SELECT THE RIGHT BIRD. You are only as good as the bird with which you cook. Pop the extra couple of bucks a pound for a free range variety from the butcher and your bird will be much more flavourful. Pick it up Christmas Eve. Buy fresh and, if you can, buy local.

2 BRINE THE BIRD. It's Christmas Eve. To four cups of water add two cups of sugar (or maple syrup), two cups of salt, two cinnamon sticks, three bay leaves, a spoonful of black peppercorns and whatever herbs or spices you have lying around the cupboard (thyme, sage, etc.). Bring to a boil and simmer until the salt and sugar have dissolved. Now pour your brine mixture into a really big soup pot and add more cold water. Take your bird from its plastic wrap and wash it under room temperature water (remove the gizzards). Immerse your bird completely in the brine, making sure the cavity fills up. Stick the pot in the fridge.

3 ROOM TEMPERATURE MR. TURKEY. Whether you brine or not, you absolutely, positively have to take the turkey out of the fridge and let it sit on the counter for at least 30 minutes. If you brined, take it out of the water and pat dry. It is so important that any protein you cook comes to room temperature before you stick it in the oven. The internal temperature of a piece of meat must be the same as the outside if it is to cook properly.

4 THE ROASTING PAN IS YOUR FRIEND. Chose a pan with low sides. Even cooking temperature is essential for perfection, and a roasting pan with high sides will not allow even cooking. If you are going with one of those throwaway aluminum jobs then buy two — set one inside the other for extra strength and cut the sides down.

5 MAKE THE MIRE POIX. Take a leek and chop it up (white and pale green parts only) and add to the roasting pan. Chop up some onion, carrots, celery and add to the pan. Separate a head of garlic and smash the cloves with the back of as knife. Add to the pot. Stir in some olive oil, salt and pepper.

FOR MORE, SEE PAGE 47

ADD MORE CHEER

Enjoy the holidays with Gusto TV. Add more cheer with this step-by-step food and entertaining guide featuring mouth-watering recipes, easy menus and tips for making the most of the festive season with the ones you love. Brought to you by Gusto TV, Canada's new food and lifestyle channel that this week. For more see, GustoTV.com.

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 46

Stick the roasting pan in the oven at 500 F (or as close as your oven gets) for 30 minutes or until the veggies begin to brown. Stir every now and then. Once the veggies have browned, turn the oven down to 325 F.

6 BARDING THE BIRD. You have two barding options. The first is to take some room temperature butter and season it with whatever you like (oregano, sage, thyme), then gently separate the skin from the breast meat and rub the butter directly onto the meat under the skin. The other way is to top the bird with slices of bacon, which you remove with about a half hour to go so that the skin can crisp up. Stick a halved lemon and halved onion into the turkey cavity along with a couple of bay leaves, some sprigs of thyme and rosemary. Season the bird well with salt and pepper.

7 WATCH YOUR TEMPERATURE. Cook at 325 F for 13 minutes a pound — exactly 13 minutes as opposed to 15. Those extra 2 minutes per pound times the weight of the turkey is the difference between perfection and a dry bird.

8 BASTING AND DRINKING WINE. The second last thing you have to do for a juicy sweet bird is to have a glass of wine and baste the turkey every 45 minutes. Spoon the fat and juices from the roasting pan and drizzle over top of the bird. The glass of wine is because you are a wonderful person going to all this trouble for your loved ones.

9 LET THE BIRD SIT. Tent the bird with tin foil and let it sit for at least 30 minutes once it's out of the oven and the roasting pan. When meat sits for a while it relaxes and the sweet internal juices flow back throughout the bird.

There you have it. The secrets of a perfect turkey. *– Chris Knight*

A food lover at heart, Gusto TV CEO Chris Knight has written seven bestselling cookbooks based on popular television shows he has produced over the last decade. Knight was an early advocate of regional cuisine and the slow food movement, and is a visiting professor at the University of Gastronomic Sciences in Italy. His dream to launch a national television network came true this week.

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ROCCO DISPIRITO

RED VELVET CHOCOLATE SQUARES

INGREDIENTS

- ½ cup chopped canned beets, drained
- 1 cup canned red beans, rinsed well and drained
- ½ cup unsweetened cocoa powder
- ¾ cup liquid egg substitute
- 3 tpsp whole wheat pastry flour
- ¾ cup agave nectar
- 1 tbsp unsalted butter, melted
- 1 tsp vanilla extract
- ½ tsp almond extract
- 2 tsp natural red food colouring (optional)

INSTRUCTIONS

Preheat oven to 350 F. Spray an 8x8-inch baking dish with cooking spray.

Combine the beets, beans, cocoa powder, egg substitute and flour in the bowl of a food processor. Process until very smooth, about two minutes, scraping down the edges of the bowl once halfway through.

Add the agave, butter, vanilla, almond extract and food colouring and process until everything is thoroughly combined and smooth, about one more minute.

Pour the batter into the prepared baking dish and smooth the top. Bake for 28 to 30 minutes turning the dish once halfway through. A toothpick should come out with some batter clinging to it.

Let the squares cool completely in the pan on a wire rack. Once cooled, cover and refrigerate for at least three hours. Once they are thoroughly chilled, cut them into squares. Keep refrigerated.

Makes 12 bars.

NOW EAT THIS!

Award-winning celebrity chef and cookbook author Rocco DiSpirito is on a mission to change the way people consider food — that healthy and delicious are not mutually exclusive — and to change their lives in the process. Now Eat This! With Rocco DiSpirito airs Tuesday nights at 8.

MARTHA STEWART

CREAM SCONES

INGREDIENTS

- ¼ cup Grand Marnier
- 1 cup dried cherries, currants, or raisins
- 2 teaspoons orange zest
- 2 cups cake flour, sifted
- 1½ cups all-purpose flour, plus more for work surface
- 6 tablespoons sugar
- 5 teaspoons baking powder
- 1 teaspoon coarse salt
- 1 stick unsalted butter, cut into small pieces, chilled
- 1 cup heavy cream
- 1 large egg + 1 large egg yolk
- 1 large egg white (for egg wash)
- Sanding sugar, for sprinkling

INSTRUCTIONS

Preheat oven to 350 F. Line a baking sheet with parchment paper.

In a small bowl add Grand Marnier, dried fruit, and orange zest. Allow fruit to plump, at least one hour or up to overnight in the refrigerator.

In a large bowl, whisk together cake flour, all-purpose flour, sugar, baking powder, and salt. Transfer one-half of the flour mixture to a food processor. Add the butter and pulse several times to combine. Do not over process; some butter pieces should remain the size of large peas, while others pieces will be smaller.

Add the contents of the food processor back to the bowl with the dry ingredients. Stir to combine.

In a small bowl, whisk to combine the cream, egg, and egg yolk. Create a well in the middle of the flour mixture and gradually add the cream mixture. Using a large spatula or wooden spoon, draw the dry ingredients over the wet ingredients, being sure to scrape from the bottom of the bowl to incorporate the dry crumbs. Add the plumped fruit and gently mix. Do not overwork the dough.

Turn dough out onto lightly floured work surface. Pat into a narrow rectangle about one-inch thick. With the short side facing you, fold rectangle into thirds like a business letter. Turn dough a quarter-turn clockwise so the flap opening faces right, like a book. This is the first turn.

With a rolling pin or your hands, gently pat into another narrow rectangle, about one-inch thick. Repeat folding and turning process to complete a second turn.

Using lightly floured hands, pat dough out into a 1¼-inch thick rectangle. Cut out rounds, spaced as closely together as possible, using a floured two-inch round biscuit cutter. Dough may be re-rolled once and additional rounds may be cut out.

Transfer rounds to prepared baking sheet, about 1½-inch apart. Brush with egg white and sprinkle with fine sanding sugar. Bake until golden brown, 20 to 25 minutes.

Let cool 15 minutes on a wire rack before serving, or serve at room temperature. Makes about 20 scones.

CONTRIBUTED

MARTHA BAKES

Martha Stewart shares her very best secrets to give home bakers the tools, tips and confidence they need to create the finest desserts and baked goods in their own kitchens, all from scratch. Stewart sets the standards with updated versions of the classics, and adds new angles to some familiar favourites. Learn how to make the perfect cheesecake, a buttery pound cake and how to conquer puff pastry once and for all. Catch Martha Bakes weeknights at 7 and Martha Stewart's Cooking School weeknights at 6:30.

CONTRIBUTED

HOLIDAY SPECIAL SHOW GUIDE

Food all night, fun all day.

Gusto TV is Canada's new food and lifestyle specialty channel. Featuring prime-time cooking shows every evening, with some of the highest rated series from around the world never before seen in Canada.

During the day, Gusto airs exciting lifestyle, travel, fashion and home design shows. For show information and a program schedule, visit gustotv.com.

Watch Gusto TV Dec. 15 and Dec. 22 for an all-day marathon of holiday food and fun.

Shows include:

- Lorraine's Last Minute Christmas Special
- Rachel Allen's Christmas Cake Diaries
- Rachel Allen's Easy Meals Christmas
- Nigel Slater's Christmas Supper
- Rick Stein's Cornish Christmas
- Nigel Slater's Simple Cooking Christmas
- License to Grill Winter BBQ Special

Plus, watch a Mad Hungry Holiday Marathon Dec. 25 for great meal ideas, quick food tips and witty insights from Martha Stewart's executive food director Lucinda Scala Quinn.

ANNABEL LANGBEIN

BACON AND EGG PIE

CONTRIBUTED

INGREDIENTS

- 3 sheets (450 g) ready-rolled savoury short crust pastry
- 250 g streaky bacon (approximately ½ lb of strip bacon), cut into 2 cm pieces
- 2 medium potatoes, peeled, cooked and thinly sliced
- 3 tbsp soft herbs such as parsley, basil, chives or spring onion tops, chopped
- 14 eggs
- ¾ cup milk
- 1 tsp salt
- ground black pepper

INSTRUCTIONS

Preheat oven to 200 C (350 F). Place a flat baking tray in the oven to heat — the pie will sit on this and the heat will help it to crisp.

Cut a piece of baking paper to fit a 40x30 cm baking dish or roasting pan. It should cover the base and reach about three to four centimetres up the sides. Remove the baking paper from the baking dish or roasting pan and lay it flat on your bench. Dust it with a little flour and lay two pastry sheets on top. Join the pastry sheets by pressing them together firmly with a small overlap. Roll out the pastry to cover the paper. Lift the paper with the pastry and lay it into the baking dish or roasting pan (it will reach three to four centimetres up the sides).

Sprinkle the bacon over the pastry. Top with the sliced potato and sprinkle with the herbs. Break eight whole eggs over the top.

In a mixing bowl, lightly whisk the remaining six eggs with the milk, salt and pepper. Pour this evenly over the whole eggs.

Roll out the remaining sheet of pastry very thinly and cut it into narrow strips. Arrange the strips in a lattice pattern on top of the pie, trimming off any excess.

Place the prepared pie on top of the heated baking tray and bake for 12 to 15 minutes until the pastry is starting to puff and turn golden. Reduce the heat to 180 C (350 F) and bake until the pastry is golden and cooked through on the base, about a further 35 to 40 minutes.

Serve warm or at room temperature with a salad and pickles or chutney. It will keep in a covered container in the fridge for two to three days.

Serves 6-8.

CONTRIBUTED

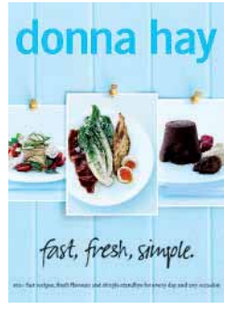
FREE-RANGE COOK

Host Annabel Langbein shares the secrets of her free-range cooking style as she gathers and prepares fresh, seasonal ingredients in the southern alps of New Zealand. Whether it's vegetables from her own gardens or giant crayfish harvested in secluded fiords, Langbein shows how easy it is to bring good food into today's fast-paced world. Each episode provides recipes for a starter, main course and dessert, and signature "fridge fixings." Learn how to prepare artisan foods such as fresh cheese and home-baked breads. Watch Annabel Langbein — The Free Range Cook weeknights (Monday to Thursday), beginning Jan. 2 at 7:30.

DONNA HAY

CONTRIBUTED

FAST, FRESH AND SIMPLE



Join Donna Hay, Australia's cherished celebrity author, food stylist and magazine editor, as she creates delicious meals using her own clever shortcuts and tricks of the trade.

With her relaxed approach to food and sought-after signature style, Hay shows that every home cook can prepare beautiful and great tasting meals without any of the fuss.

The show exemplifies why her recipes, books and magazines are so well-loved. Donna Hay's Fast, Fresh, Simple weeknights (Monday to Thursday) at 7:30. Back-to-back weekend episodes will air Saturdays at 10 p.m. and Sundays at noon, starting Dec. 21.

RASPBERRY TRIFLE

INGREDIENTS

- 6 sponge finger biscuits
- 2 tbsp raspberry or orange liqueur or sherry
- 1½ cups fresh or frozen raspberries
- 1½ tablespoons icing (confectioner's) sugar
- ½ cup (125 g) mascarpone
- ½ cup (125 ml) single (pouring) cream
- 1 tbsp icing (confectioner's) sugar, extra
- 1 tsp vanilla extract

INGREDIENTS

Divide the sponge finger biscuits between serving glasses and sprinkle with the liqueur. Roughly mix together the raspberries and icing sugar with a fork,

DONNAHAY.COM PHOTO

breaking some of the raspberries and spoon over the biscuits.

Place the mascarpone, cream, extra icing sugar and vanilla in a bowl and whisk until thick.

Spoon mascarpone mixture over the raspberries and chill until ready to serve. Serves 2.

PORK LOIN WITH STILTON AND PORT AND HONEY GLAZE

CONTRIBUTED

INGREDIENTS

- 1 kg (approximately 2 pounds) pork loin rack
- salt
- 12 sprigs oregano
- 2 large sweet potatoes (kumara), peeled and quartered
- 150 g (5 oz) stilton cheese, thickly sliced

PORT AND HONEY GLAZE

- 1 cup (250 ml) port
- ¼ cup (60 ml) beef stock
- 2 tablespoons honey

INSTRUCTIONS

Preheat oven to 220 C (425 F). Score the skin of the pork at one-centimetre intervals using a sharp knife. Rub the skin with salt and place in a baking dish on top of the oregano. Roast for 20 minutes, then reduce the heat to 180 C (350 F). Add the sweet potato to the pan and cook for a further 30 minutes or until pork is cooked to your liking.

While the pork is roasting, make the port and honey glaze. Place the port, stock and honey in a saucepan over medium heat. Allow mixture to simmer for 12 to 15 minutes or until glaze is reduced and syrupy.

To serve, slice the pork and place on serving plates with the sweet potato. Top the pork with the stilton and spoon over the port and honey glaze. Serves 4.

LORRAINE PASCAL

GINGER AND CINNAMON STAINED GLASS COOKIES

These spicy cookies make beautiful Christmas decorations, just thread them with coloured ribbon. You can also wrap them up as Christmas presents.

You will need a 12-centimetre (4½-inch) star- or snowflake-shaped cookie cutter and a four-centimetre (1½-inch) star cutter.

INGREDIENTS

- 100g (3½ oz) butter, diced
- Half-cup soft light brown sugar
- 2 tbsp golden syrup
- 1 tsp dark molasses
- 1 tbsp ground ginger
- 1 tbsp ground cinnamon
- large pinch ground cloves
- pinch chilli powder (optional)
- 2 cups plain flour
- ½ tsp baking soda
- 6 hard candies (in different colours), each ground in a pestle and mortar or blended in a food processor

FOR THE ICING

- ¾ cup icing sugar

CONTRIBUTED

INSTRUCTIONS

Preheat the oven to 200 C (400 F, Gas 6). Line two baking trays with grease-proof paper. Heat the butter, sugar, golden syrup, dark molasses, ginger, cinnamon, cloves and chilli powder in a saucepan until the butter melts and the sugar has dissolved.

Remove the pan from the heat and stir in the flour and baking soda. You should have a smooth but fairly stiff dough. Chill for five minutes (it's important to work with the dough while it is still a little warm since it becomes quite dry and crumbly upon cooling completely).

Roll the dough out to a one-centimetre (half-inch) thickness on a large sheet of greaseproof paper. Use a 12-centimetre (4½-inch) star- or snowflake-shaped cookie cutter to cut out the cookies. Use a four-centimetre (1½-inch) star cutter to stamp out the centre of each cookie.

Use a palette knife to lift the large stars onto a baking sheet. To make decorations, use a wooden skewer to make a hole in the top of each cookie.

Re-roll the remaining dough and the leftover smaller stars and continue to make the cookies in this way until all the dough is used up.

Place a little of the ground hard candies in the centre of each star, using a separate colour for each cookie.

Bake in the oven for 8 to 10 minutes, or until the cookie is crisp and beginning to darken and the candy has melted to fill the hole. Remove from the oven and use the wooden skewer to make sure the holes are in tact.

Leave to cool completely, then slide a palette knife under each cookie to release them from the paper.

Mix the royal icing sugar with a little water until you have a thick paste and pipe or drizzle onto the cookies.

CONTRIBUTED

LAST MINUTE CHRISTMAS

Lorraine Pascale, bestselling U.K. cookbook author and former runway model, creates a feast of tasty seasonal dishes, scrumptious edible gifts, and a stunning winter wonderland cake as she prepares for a festive family get-together. There are tips, cheats and ideas that are bound to impress, even if you have left everything until the last minute. Catch Lorraine Pascal's Last Minute Christmas Special Dec. 15 and Dec. 22 at 6 p.m.

CONTRIBUTED

SPICY HOT CHOCOLATE

INGREDIENTS

- 2 tbsp cocoa powder, sifted
- 1 tbsp sugar, sifted
- 1 cup milk
- 2 cups cream
- 1 vanilla bean
- 3 tbsp chocolate syrup
- 1 cup water
- ½ chili pepper, diced
- 2 tbsp honey
- Pinch of salt
- Red food colouring, for rim
- Sugar for rim
- 1 orange wedge

INSTRUCTIONS

Place your sugar for your mug rim in a shallow bowl. Add a touch of red food colouring and mix well until the sugar is desired colour of pink. Rub your mug rims with the orange wedge to moisten. Dip the mug in the sugar to coat the rim and set aside.

Sift your sugar and cocoa powder together into a bowl.

Place your milk and cream into a saucepan. Add your whole vanilla bean and bring to a boil. Simmer for approximately 10 minutes. Remove vanilla pod. Split the pod with a knife and add the seeds to your sifted sugar and cocoa.

Whisk your water and chocolate syrup together. Add it to your warm cream, whisking to incorporate. Gradually mix in your dry mix, whisking briskly until the chocolate has completely dissolved.

Cut your chilli into a super fine dice. Add your chilli, honey and a pinch of salt to your hot chocolate. Pour into your sugar rimmed mugs and enjoy.

Serves 4-6.

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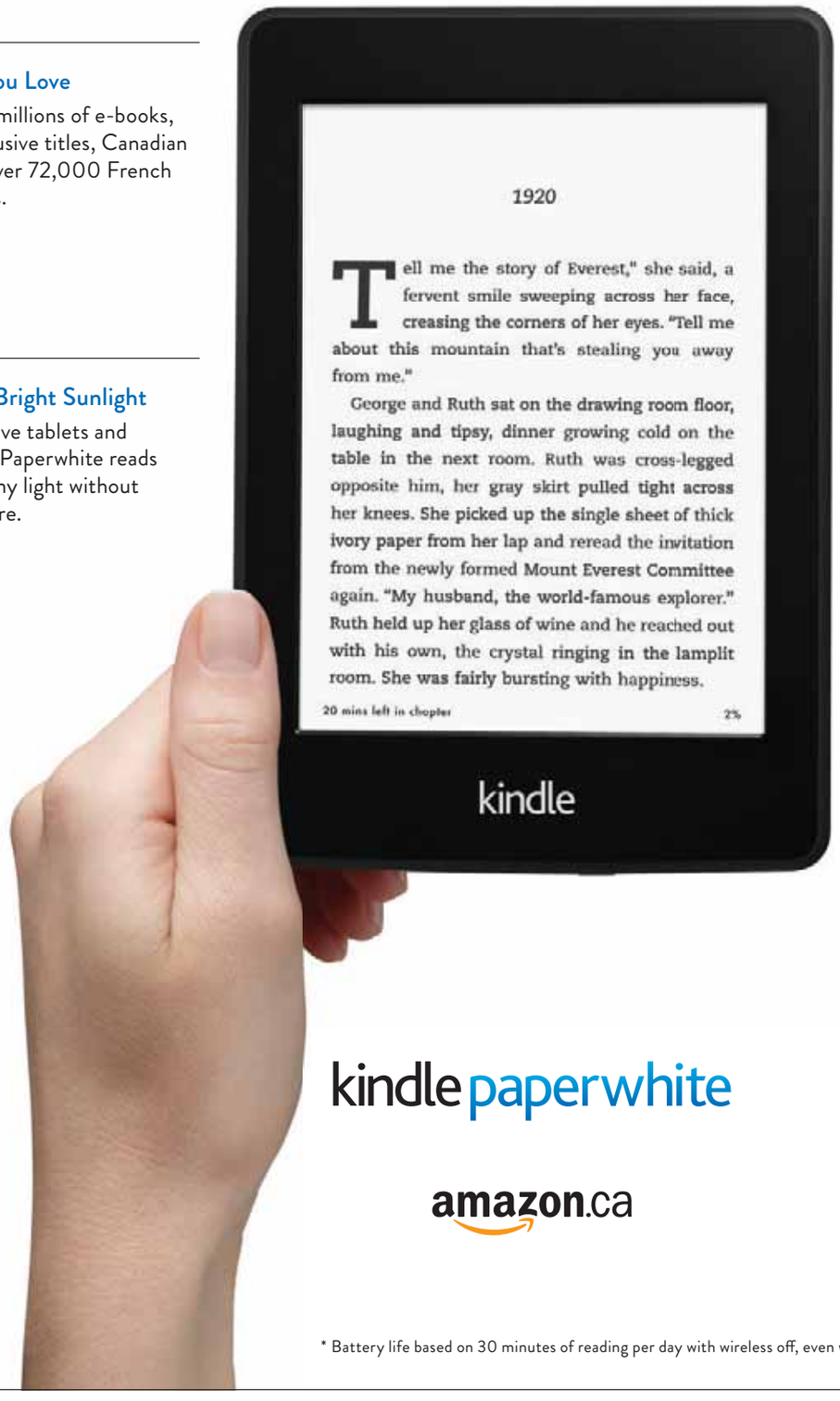

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Create lasting memories by reading holiday books with the family — PAGE 54

Games will delight finding the latest releases under the tree — PAGE 59

As light as snow? The iPad Air is a hot tech gift this season — PAGE 62

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HOLIDAY 2013 m gift guide

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The greatest stories of the season

MICHELLE WILLIAMS
For Metro

Do you remember your parents reading you a beloved holiday story? If you are on the lookout for a great book to share with your family this year, try one of these festive favourites and classics, recommended by Robin Tameshtit, director of kids and teen print at Indigo.

Gather the family around the tree and a fire and read some classic holiday tales to create memorable moments. COLOURBOX

Elf On The Shelf

This fun Christmas advent game and story will help build holiday excitement. It's become an instant favourite with a dedicated fan following and loads of Christmas magic. (Carol Aebersold, $34.99, Zibbers Inc.).

How The Grinch Stole Christmas

This perennial classic is fantastic to read aloud and has a heartwarming holiday message about the affects the Christmas spirit can have on even the smallest and coldest of hearts. (Dr. Seuss, $18.99, Random House of Canada).

The Night Before Christmas

This enduring classic is brought to life by the signature plasticine art of Canadian favourite Barbara Reid. A perfectly adorable take on the Christmas Eve tale. (Clement Moore, $19.99, Scholastic Book Services).

Scaredy Squirrel Prepares For Christmas

A quirky, fun-filled guide of practical tips and nutty step-by-step instructions to help readers prepare for Christmas — being prepared is so much fun with the adorable Scaredy Squirrel. (Melanie Watt, $18.95, University of Toronto Press).

Olivia Helps With Christmas

The fabulous, dramatic piglet is back and ready to help out with the holidays in the way only this adorable pig can. Sure to bring about giggling and holiday cheer in this board book edition. (Ian Falconer, $9.99, Simon & Schuster Canada).

Polar Express

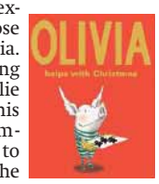
Winner of the 1986 Caldecott Medal, it's the story of a boy's magical train ride to the north pole on Christmas Eve to receive a special gift from Santa. A guaranteed holiday favourite. (Chris Van Allsburg, $23.95, Thomas Allen & Son Ltd.).

Night Before Christmas — 10th Anniversary

This loved Christmas classic poem comes to life in this perfect edition that you will read with your family year after year. Includes stunning illustrations by Christian Birmingham. (Clement C. Moore, $11.50, Perseus Distribution).

Peanuts — A Charlie Brown Christmas

A no-fail classic to share with an excellent dose of nostalgia. Read along with Charlie Brown in his heartwarming quest to uncover the true meaning of Christmas with Snoopy, Linus, and friends. (Charles M. Schulz, $21.00, Perseus Distribution).



Porcupine In A Pine Tree Gift Set

A Canadian version of the 12 Days of Christmas, complete with fun rhymes and adorable illustrations. The deluxe box set comes with an adorably huggable plush porcupine. (Helaine Becker, $24.99, Scholastic Book Services).

That's Not My Snowman

Delightfully wintery, this board book is great for the littlest revellers. Combines colourful illustrations with a variety of different textures to touch and feel. (F. Watt, $11.95, Penguin Canada Books Inc.).

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Give her glowing holiday glam

JANINE FALCON
For Metro

Wonderful makeup and skin care treats for the ladies on your gift list.

Formula X for Sephora, The Twenty-Two. A comprehensive starter set of Sephora's new line of cream, bright and chrome polishes and fantastical top coats for every nail colour enthusiast. $66 at Sephora and sephora.ca.

Benefit Cosmetics Advent Calendar. Twenty-four days of adorable makeup minis. $79 at Sephora.

Philosophy Festive Favorites Skincare Gift Set. A genius way to give greatest-hits skin care. $94 ($150 value) at Sephora, Hudson's Bay, Shoppers Drug Mart.

Cool-it Caddy Icepops Freezeable Cosmetics Case. Freeze-and-go bag keeps sunscreen and lipstick from melting as you lounge for hours on that tropical beach. $23.95, plus shipping, at TheShoppingChannel.com.

Make Up For Ever Artisan Makeup Brushes. Beautifully constructed, innovative professional tools five years in the making. Double-Ended Sculpting Brush 158, and Medium Paint Brush 412. $61 and $49 at Sephora.

Michael Kors Beauty. Launched this fall, covetable cosmetics from jet-set leisure-wear designer Kors. From $20 to $55 at Hudson's Bay.

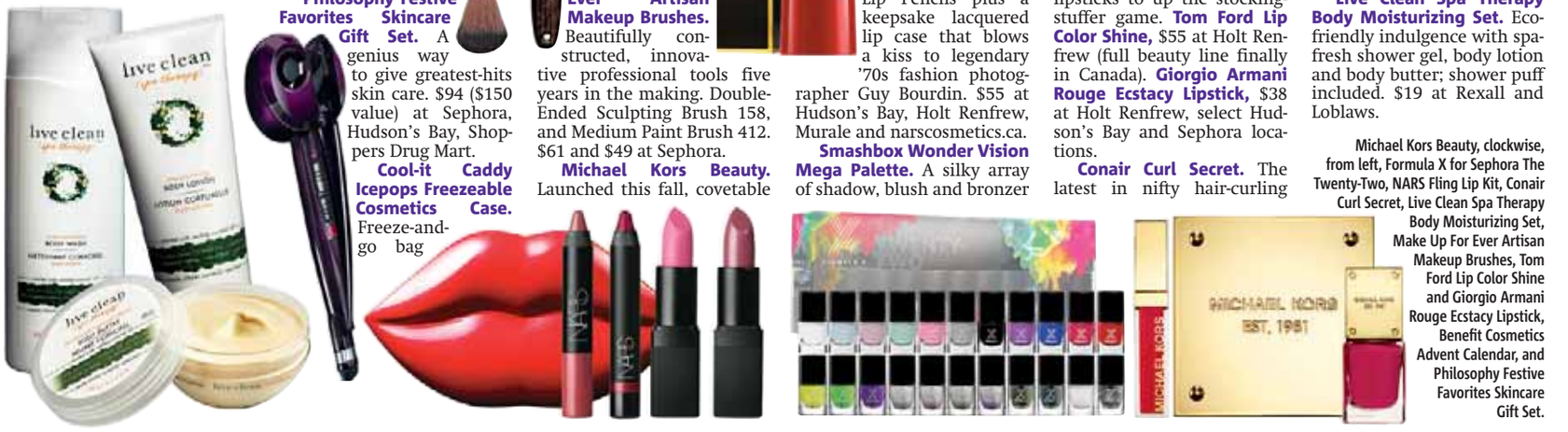
NARS Fling Lip Kit. Two signature sheer lipsticks and mini Velvet Matte Lip Pencils plus a keepsake lacquered lip case that blows a kiss to legendary '70s fashion photographer Guy Bourdin. $55 at Hudson's Bay, Holt Renfrew, Murale and narscosmetics.ca.

Smashbox Wonder Vision Mega Palette. A silky array of shadow, blush and bronzer in a variety of finishes plus professional how-to tips. $58 at Shoppers Drug Mart, Murale, Sephora and smashbox.com.

Luxe Lipsticks. Beautiful, elegant lipsticks to up the stocking-stuffer game. **Tom Ford Lip Color Shine,** $55 at Holt Renfrew (full beauty line finally in Canada). **Giorgio Armani Rouge Ecstacy Lipstick,** $38 at Holt Renfrew, select Hudson's Bay and Sephora locations.

Conair Curl Secret. The latest in nifty hair-curling technology — seeing is believing. $119 at Shoppers Drug Mart and Walmart.

Live Clean Spa Therapy Body Moisturizing Set. Eco-friendly indulgence with spa-fresh shower gel, body lotion and body butter; shower puff included. $19 at Rexall and Loblaws.



Michael Kors Beauty, clockwise, from left, Formula X for Sephora The Twenty-Two, NARS Fling Lip Kit, Conair Curl Secret, Live Clean Spa Therapy Body Moisturizing Set, Make Up For Ever Artisan Makeup Brushes, Tom Ford Lip Color Shine and Giorgio Armani Rouge Ecstacy Lipstick, Benefit Cosmetics Advent Calendar, and Philosophy Festive Favorites Skincare Gift Set.

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Gather all ye around a video game

MIKE YAWNEY
For Metro

Video games continue to be a hot holiday gift for both young and old. Here are some of the top titles for all ages this holiday season.

The Last of Us — PS3
This character-driven action adventure is easily one of the best games for the Playstation 3 this year. A virus spreads across the U.S., turning the population into deadly abominations. An unlikely duo must make their way across a post-pandemic U.S. in the unlikely hope of bringing it all to an end. While the game is amazing, the language and fright factor means mature gamers only.

Beyond: Two Souls — PS3
An incredible psychological action-thriller featuring the voices of Canada's own Ellen Page, along with William Dafoe. A young women possesses supernatural powers through a psychic link to an invisible entity. This game

is completely different from any other on the market. Features incredible storytelling, playing out more as a movie than an action game.

Grand Theft Auto 5 — Xbox 360, PS3
Take on the role of three criminals in the latest instalment of this controversial franchise. GTA 5 features one of the largest and diverse open worlds to discover. Fight rival street gangs, pull off dramatic heists or simply explore the vast city of Los Santos. This groundbreaking series is filled with violence and coarse language so don't

even consider purchasing this for youngsters. Mature gamers only.

Super Mario 3D World — Wii U
The perfect game to play as a family. Super Mario 3D World is the first 3D Mario platformer for Nintendo's Wii U console. Play as Mario, Luigi, Princess Peach or Toad as you overcome wildly creative obstacles. Get ready for new power-ups like the cat suit and, of course, new never-seen-before enemies like sand Goombas.

Far Cry 3 — Xbox 360, PS3
Stranded in a tropical paradise and fighting to survive, Far Cry 3 brings incredible game play with one of the most memorable villains. Explore an island full of secrets and use the environment to craft items and weapons to help you survive.

Assassin's Creed IV: Black Flag — Multiple consoles
Take the helm of your ship and live the life of a pirate. Explore open waters and dive for treasure in this historical action-adventure featuring many figures from the golden age of piracy. This franchise has been a favourite, and the latest instalment looks absolutely gorgeous.

Batman Arkham Origins — Xbox 360, PS3
Taking place before the rise of Gotham's most dangerous villains and assassins, this game features a young Batman still in the early stages of his career as a crime fighter. This title introduces the notorious villains Batman will find himself fighting for years to come. A must-have for comic book lovers on your list.

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Cookies and butterscotch sauce are included in chef Michael Smith's holiday gift basket. NATHAN ROCHFORD/THE CANADIAN PRESS

Gift baskets can help teach spirit of giving

Michael Smith wants his children to understand that the Christmas season is about using their time and talent to bring joy to others.

The Canadian chef has been assembling baskets of mainly foodie gifts to give to close family members and friends for about a decade, and putting them together has evolved into an activity that he and his children enjoy together.

"I think the spirit of these baskets is teaching your kids that giving is more important than receiving," he said in a telephone interview from Fortune, P.E.I. "I know that's where the whole idea started for me was years ago, just frustrated with all the stuff flowing one way into the house for the kids and not necessarily feeling like they were engaged with the giving side of things and really trying to figure out a way for them to create a tradition."

Making a basket for someone you care about is personal and perhaps easier in some ways than braving the shops. It can be tailored to the person and your economic situation and need not be expensive.

Smith puts six to eight items in each basket and makes up about 25 of them for close friends and family, then delivers them just before Christmas.

"Anybody can go out and spend 100 bucks and buy some fancy new cookbook or something for your kitchen or some nameless whatever, some anonymous sort of gift — maybe it's special, maybe it's well thought out, but you know what I mean," he said.

"There's nothing more precious than giving your time, than giving your talent."

Smith will be seen as a judge on Chopped Canada, premiering on Food Network Canada Jan. 2, and currently hosts the instructional cooking series Chef Michael's Kitchen. He has also hosted The Inn Chef, Chef at Home, Chef at Large and Chef Abroad, so it's not surprising that his baskets take on a food theme, but he says they can be tailored to the interests of the giver or recipient.

Each basket always contains a handmade ornament created by him and his children. Gabe, 11, and Ariella, 5, play an active role, and Smith expects one-year-old Camille will take part in the future.

They often use different coloured clays and bake them into shapes, such as snowmen, wreaths or Christmas trees. Last year it was a small box gift-wrapped with ribbons.

"We know we have friends who can look at their tree and see six, seven, eight years worth of ornaments that the kids have made for them. It's pretty cool."

"I also like to include what I call the foodie find," says Smith, who led the team of chefs that cooked at the Whistler athletes village during the 2010 Vancouver Olympic Games and helped make the Canada Summer Games athletes village a junk-food-free zone.

"Over the run of the year I run into a lot of really cool food items and some of them really stick out and are so good that I really feel like sharing them with my friends."

This year he has chosen Cherry Lane concentrated tart cherry juice from Ontario's Niagara region. A personalized dark chocolate bar sprinkled with sea salt and nicknamed The Islander is a nod to Smith's role as food ambassador for P.E.I. will be included.

"And then outside the world of food I like to do a gag gift in there every year, something silly. This year it's actually going to be candy insects. We found earlier this year a company that sells five different cans of canned insect protein, like a can full of crickets sort of thing. Totally edible, totally legit."

For anyone contemplating making up gift baskets, Smith recommends visiting a craft store for inexpensive baskets, fun labels and other decorations.

"Keep it simple and really understand that first and foremost you're giving yourself and you're giving your time and it doesn't need to meet that sort of over-the-top standard of Martha Stewart or the pictures you see in the magazines," he said.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

Personal touch

"Keep it simple and really understand that first and foremost you're giving yourself and you're giving your time and it doesn't need to meet that sort of over-the-top standard of Martha Stewart or the pictures you see in the magazines."

Chef Michael Smith

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Go green with your wrapping this season. SYDA PRODUCTIONS/SHUTTERSTOCK

Green for the season. Wrapping with scrap

MICHELLE WILLIAMS
For Metro

Feeling eco-minded about your festive gift wrap? No one likes to see all that expensive paper filling up the trash.

So go green this season and try some of these ideas, compiled with the help of Toronto-based eco crafts expert Mona Dhanjal, and wrap with scrap.

• Turn an old book into a fancy reusable gift box by carving out the pages with a utility knife. Then line it with felt and glue on some old holiday cards.

• Glue old photos or postcards to bags, boxes or paper to make unique wrap or gift tags with a personal touch. Trim with fancy edges using pinking shears.

• Paint an old suitcase festive colours, glue on travel stickers or a festive scene cut out of old holiday wrap or cards, and tie on a shipping tag and a big red bow. Fill it with hard-to-wrap gifts. Doubles as perfect storage for holiday ornaments.

• Turn leftover wallpaper into beautiful origami boxes. You can get easy instructions online.

• Bits of felt can be used to make gift tags or little pouches and envelopes.

• Wrap in burlap. It's biodegradable, it looks great and it's reusable.

• Sew or knit a handy reusable tote bag from bits of cloth with holiday designs, velvet and lace.

• Fill a pretty wicker basket with gift items and dress it up with a bow — no need to wrap.

• Instead of holiday gift wrap, wrap using other scrap paper such as old magazines, sheet music, maps or calendars.

• Embellish gifts with items found in nature, like berry sprigs, pinecones, or sprigs of greenery.

• Wire miniature orphaned ornaments and beads together to add luxe to a simple gift tag.

• Crumple, iron and pleat used tissue paper, then layer it on gift boxes or bags.

• Wrap a gift in a holiday scarf or a cloth napkin, which can be used later to line a bread basket on a holiday table.

• Get the kids to decorate white or brown kraft paper with stamps, stickers or holiday themed cut-outs from old gift cards or wrap. Or create artwork to use as wrap.

More tips

- Recycle gift tags from year to year.
- Raffia or string looks just as pretty as ribbon.
- Eliminate tape if you are going to recycle paper.

Pets shouldn't be surprise gifts

JANE DOUCET
For Metro

If you are thinking about giving a pet to someone this holiday season, it's best if it isn't a surprise. Whether you plan to adopt from a rescue group or shelter or buy from a breeder or pet store, the general guidelines are the same.

"We do adopt out dogs and cats successfully during our annual Home for the Holidays program, but we don't allow them to be adopted as surprise gifts," said Sandra Flemming, the director of animal care for the Nova Scotia SPCA.

Before an animal can be adopted from the SPCA during the holidays, everyone who lives in the home must confirm that they are on board — it can't even be a surprise for the kids.

Getting the entire family's consent lowers the chances that the animal will be returned to the shelter because someone is allergic or afraid of it. It also means the adopters will have discussed up front whether they can afford a pet and have the time and energy to take care of it.

For those who know a friend or relative who wants to adopt an SPCA animal, a gift certificate is ideal.

"It allows the person to choose their own pet when the time is right," Flemming said.

One of the most important things to decide is which type of animal will suit your lifestyle.

"Cats and kittens are less work for busy people than dogs and puppies," Flemming said.

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All I want for Christmas

iPad Air — $519 and up

Samsung Galaxy Gear — $329.99

MIKE YAWNEY
For Metro

Electronics are one of the most popular holiday gifts. Don't disappoint by giving someone outdated tech. Here are some of the hottest gadgets to help you wrap up your holiday shopping.

iPad Air — $519 and up
A new iPad that is as light as air. Weighing only 0.45 kilograms (one pound), this latest tablet from Apple features a thinner design, smaller bezel and incredibly fast processing power. With almost half a million apps available this really is a gift anyone can enjoy.

FitBit Force — $129.99
Give the gift of healthy living. The FitBit Force tracks your daily activities such as steps taken, distance travelled, and calories burned and then lets you see them in real time across multiple devices. It tracks your sleep at night and wakes you up with a silent alarm.

Samsung Galaxy NX — $1,599
This impressive 20.3-megapixel camera will stun the shutterbug on your list. The Galaxy NX packs 3G/4G plus Wi-Fi so you can snap a pic, then instantly share to Facebook, Twitter, YouTube and other social media. With interchangeable lenses, you get infinite imaging possibilities.

iPhone 5s — $719 (no contract)
The world's first 64-bit smartphone. Faster processor, better graphical capabilities and a much better camera are just a few of the features that make this smartphone stand out from the pack. Plus, a TouchID scanner keeps your device locked using your fingerprint as the key.

Samsung Galaxy Note 3 — $699 (no contract)
A smartphone for those who love a large screen. Paired with the S Pen (stylus) you can write notes, draw on maps or edit photos without relying on your fingers. It will also transcribe your handwriting into text.

Sony 4K Ultra HDTV — $4,499.99
Help someone build the ultimate man cave with Sony's latest television that boasts four times the resolution of HDTV. This TV up-converts HD video into 4K resolution, which is handy since true 4K content is quite limited. Gamers will love the feature that allows two player games with no split screen. You can also control this TV with your smartphone.

Samsung Galaxy Gear — $329.99
Wearable technology is finally here. Pair it with select Samsung smartphones to receive notifications of incoming emails and texts. Make phone calls from your watch or snap pictures and record video with the built-in camera.

Dyson Hard — $349.99
Vacuums may not seem like a great gift, but this vacuum breaks all the rules. This high-tech, cordless Dyson Hard is specifically designed for cleaning hard flooring. Using dual suction channels, it sucks up debris as it removes grime using a wet wipe in a single action. Wet wipes are sold separately.

HP Envy Recline 23 All-in-One PC — $1,350 US
Use it like a regular desktop PC in the upright position, or recline the monitor flat and use it as a large tablet. The 10-point touchscreen ensures you will get the most out of Windows 8 while the integrated Beats Audio speakers with subwoofer will provide rich, dynamic sound for those who want more out of their computer.

Panasonic Lumix GM1 — $749.99 US
The world's smallest Micro Four Thirds camera to date. Fashionable design, yet loaded with features. Budding photographers will love the intelligent assistance that will help you take the perfect photo, while experienced shutterbugs can take advantage of full manual controls. Built-in Wi-Fi makes sharing those memories even easier.

Panasonic Lumix GM1 — $749.99 US, clockwise, from left, FitBit Force — $129.99, Samsung Galaxy Note 3 — $699 (no contract), Dyson Hard — $349.99, and Sony 4K Ultra HD TV — $4,499.99.

HP Envy Recline 23 All-in-One PC — $1,350 US

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A cruise for Christmas makes a great gift for everyone from kids to grandparents. HOLLAND AMERICA PHOTO

Spend the holiday at sea

DIANE TIERNEY
For Metro

Cruise staff deck the decks with opulent holiday decorations. DIANE TIERNEY/FOR METRO

You can still have a white Christmas in the Caribbean, Mexico or any other warm climate if you take a cruise. Most cruise lines go crazy when it comes to creating a festive atmosphere for the holidays, even if it means making fake snow and decking the decks with holiday decor.

Atriums, lobbies and lounges will be graced with gigantic Christmas trees, some soaring three decks high. Staircase banisters are draped with garlands dripping with holly. Lavish wreaths hang on doors. Stockings hang from faux fireplaces.

Cruise lines take extra delight in performing opulent holiday pageants and serving sumptuous meals to honour the season.

Plus, if your kids are worried that Santa won't find them at sea, no need. Santa has been known to parasail onto the deck, making kids think he just jumped out of his sleigh from the sky.

Family-oriented cruise lines such as Carnival, Holland America and Royal Caribbean are extra sweet at keeping spirits high.

"We traditionally see very strong demand for Christmas cruises," said Terry Thornton, senior vice-president of marketing for Carnival. "The pricing is affordable and we have ships departing from about a dozen U.S. ports to make them easy to drive to rather than fly."

The growing trend for holiday cruises is to make it a family reunion. To accommodate large groups, cruise lines have created more inter-connecting cabins, as well as condo-sized staterooms that can sleep more than one family.

"In recent years, we've hosted many more multi-generational families, from kids and grandparents to their extended family members," Thornton said.

"A cruise allows guests of all ages and interests to spend the holidays together."

Carnival features special holiday-themed entertainment, children's programs and traditional meals — turkey, mincemeat pies, eggnog and more. Passengers celebrating Hanukkah can enjoy menus with potato latkes, matzo ball soup and gefilte fish.

On Royal Caribbean, young passengers participate in gingerbread house contests, decorate Christmas cookies, make ornaments and prepare a pageant to show parents.

Santa Claus, with his sack full of toys, visits with children and there is usually a fair in the atrium that offers youngsters games, contests, balloon animals and face painting.

The sophisticated shows in the theatres focus their musicals on the season. Or for those passengers who like entertainment that's more subdued, there are readings of 'Twas the Night Before Christmas and classic TV movies to watch in your cabin.

Holland America passengers enjoy gala feasts, caroling, holiday shows, tree lightings, visits with Santa and a variety of religious services.

"We also have the crew perform a show that features their own special traditions," said Erik Elvejord, Holland America director of public relations.

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Timex-Ironman Sleek 250-Lap with Tap-Screen Technology, $124.99, available at Running Room, runningroom.com.

Timex Intelligence Quartz Linear Chronograph, $225, available at Timex.ca.

Garmin Forerunner 620 with HRM-Run, $475.99, available at Running Room, runningroom.com.

Tissot Heritage Navigator COSC 160th Anniversary, $1,795, visit tissot.ch to find a retailer.

Garmin Approach S1 GPS Golf Watch, $180, available at Indigo, indigo.ca.

KUKULAKUKU Swatch Watch, $70, available at Swatch.com.

TW Steel Canteen Collection TW302, $550, available at TWSteel.com.

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Light the season fantastic

MICHELLE WILLIAMS
For Metro

It's time to light up the neighbourhood. MAP 1273/SHUTTERSTOCK

It's time to drag out the holiday lights for another season. Tired of those same awkward strings of finicky lights that are so difficult to hang year after year?

Check out the latest illuminating options.

Clip-ons. One of the most frustrating things about hanging lights is getting them to actually stay in place.

"Usually, you have to purchase and attach clips separately," said Brian Rattray, general manager of two Toronto-based Canadian Tire stores. "Noma Quick Clip LED Lights are new this year. Whether you hang your outdoor lights on a tree, a gutter or a fence, the clips are heavy-duty and attach to just about anything to make hanging lights a lot easier."

Laser illumination. If you want to skip the lights — or enhance your outdoor decor — you can add a Bliss Laser Light Stake to project the look of lights on your house or on a tree.

"It gives the appearance of mini-lights all over the house," Rattray said. "Just stake it into the ground and you're done. It's much like a floodlight in its simplicity."

Let it snow. A new product called Light Flurries works on the same principle. It's a small flood light that casts light into a box containing a mirrored ball, which, in turn, projects the look of snow falling on your house.

"Using Light Flurries is a simple way to create the illusion of snow falling and to give your house a real holiday feel," Rattray said.

Holiday parade. Another way to light up your lawn is with popular inflatables and wire forms. Inflatables blow up using an air pump built in to the bottom.

"They also have lights in them, so they have built-in spotlighting," Rattray said.

Wire-form decorations (snowflakes, ornaments or animals) that light up can hang and sit on your lawn.

"Inflatables and wire forms are easy. They come in dozens of fun designs and light up to look great, day and night."

A final tip. Before hanging up lights, remember to check them to be sure they work.

ASUS recommends Windows 8.

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GIFTS OF HOPE: WHEN GIVING IS RECEIVING

Two years ago, Ginger and Scott McClelland decided to see if they could make Christmas a little bit more about giving than receiving. After going through a Gifts of Hope catalogue they had received in the mail, the Ottawa couple chose baby chicks to give to all of their grandchildren.

Gifts of Hope are ethical gifts, which means they give twice — here and abroad. Ginger and Scott felt these gifts were the perfect way to introduce a special kind of holiday giving to their grandchildren. Once the four children, who ranged in age from 10 to 14, had opened the gift card with the picture of a fluffy baby chick on the front, Ginger and Scott explained how the chicks would help support a family in Africa.

"And the kids got very excited very quickly about the gift," Ginger says. "The youngest, Emma, even sent a letter to Santa Claus asking him to make sure the gift got to the family on time."

But the best part of the story was yet to come.

When Christmas came around the following year, the adults in the family agreed that they would exchange Gifts of Hope. However, during the gift exchange the really big surprise was that the four kids had decided that they would exchange Gifts of Hope with each other as well.

"All in all, I think we gave 12 Gifts of Hope, ranging from newborn checkup and a bed net to chicks, a goat, three hens and a rooster," Ginger says. "Our gift to each other was literacy training for two women.

"Sometimes you look at what happens at Christmas and think 'we may be missing the whole point,'" Scott says. "But it was a very emotional and special Christmas last year, and I was incredibly proud of my family."

Gifts of Hope provided everyone in the McClelland family a wonderful way to help make someone else's life a little better and to feel good about it.

"Gifts of Hope really are a unique gift-giving opportunity," says Sangita Patel, director of program management at Plan Canada.

"For people who purchase a gift, it's a way to give a socially conscious gift and to avoid crowded malls. For the recipient, the gift is contributing to important work overseas. For the children of the community that receives the gift, it's about changing and improving their lives."

Plan Canada is one of the world's oldest and largest international development agencies. Founded in 1937, it works in 69 countries and more than 90,000 communities around the world. Gifts of Hope is Plan Canada's increasingly popular year-round ethical giving program, especially popular during the holiday period.

For parents — and grandparents like the McClellands — a Gift of Hope is a great tool to very gently and in a positive way expose children to what life is like for other children in other places, Patel says.

"They provide such a nice teachable moment for kids amidst the holiday rush."

Gifts of Hope support Plan Canada programs in the areas of education, health, clean water, and livelihoods. Fifteen of the gifts are also designated as "Because I am a Girl" gifts, which go to support the work Plan does that directly benefits girls and women.

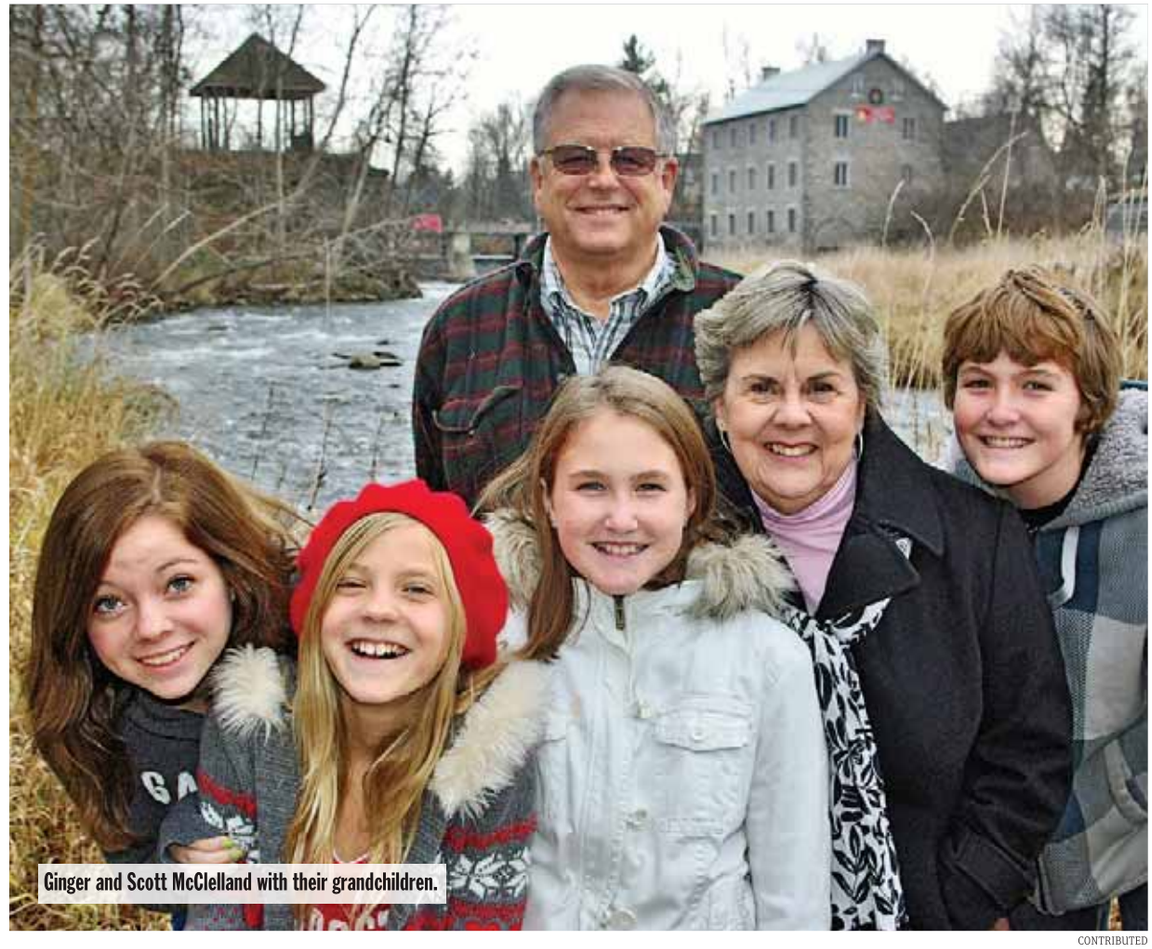
"These gifts help to unleash the power of girls and women to create a brighter, safer future for girls in the developing world," Patel says.

Gifts suit any budget, ranging in price from $10 for anti-malaria bed nets to $75 for a goat to $1,000 for water and sanitation for communities. Sometimes the dollar value of the gift is matched by a government, foundation or corporate partner for even more impact.

"It's a great way to show care for what's happening in other places," Patel says. "And to show children how one gift can make lives better for other kids and families."

One of the McClelland's grandchildren, Ben, 14, says that the Gift of Hope chicks seemed "kind of weird" at first.

"But after I learned more about it, it felt like you could really help other people, and it was nice to be giving something rather than always just getting a lot."



Ginger and Scott McClelland with their grandchildren.

CONTRIBUTED

REAL GIFTS THAT CHANGE REAL LIVES

In all, there are 42 Gifts of Hope to choose from, ranging in price from $10 to $50,000. Every gift comes with a free greeting card or e-card, and 26 of the gifts are matched by government, foundation or organizational partners. Here are some examples:

- Bed nets, $10 (matched for a $70 value)
- School essentials for one child, $17 (matched for a $119 value)
- Birth certificate, $25 (matched for $125 value)
- Newborn checkup, $30 (matched for a $120 value)
- Clean water for families, $75 (matched for $225 value)
- Literacy training for two women, $120 (matched for $600 value)
- Farm load of animals, $190 (matched for a $760 value)
- Help orphaned children affected by HIV, $75 (matched for a $1,200 value)

To see more Gifts of Hope or to place an order, visit plangifts.com or call 1-800-387-1418.

Think outside the gift box

Why a goat? When you give a goat, you provide a family in a developing country with nourishment, the makings of a family business, and a new future. Gifts of Hope are real gifts to real projects that change real lives.

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Founded in 1937, Plan is one of the world's oldest and largest charities working to end global poverty. Inclusive of all faiths and cultures, Plan has only one purpose: to improve the lives of children.

Plan

THE ANATOMY OF AN EMERGENCY

Less than two months ago, super typhoon Haiyan roared towards the eastern islands of the Philippines with winds upwards of 275 kilometres per hour and no one could have imagined the destruction and despair it would leave behind.

With many lives lost, whole villages destroyed, and millions of people left homeless, here is how the relief plan for this large-scale emergency came together, and the important role that UNICEF and UNICEF donors play. UNICEF is the world's leading child-focused humanitarian organization.

MAITEM UNICEF PHOTO

THE DAMAGE

"There were cars on top of uprooted trees, concrete buildings smashed down, and whole communities of shanty towns just gone," says Ken Page of UNICEF, who arrived in Tacloban a few days after the typhoon. "Everything was knocked down and flattened, debris was everywhere, it looked like a bomb had gone off.

"You have some communities where you could say, literally, everybody needs everything," says Page, who is strategic communication adviser, emergencies, at UNICEF headquarters in New York. "These people have lost loved ones, their homes, their jobs. There's nothing left."

Many hundreds of families are living at evacuation points, which are safe structures such as schools, churches, etc.

VALCARCEL SILVELA UNICEF PHOTO

EFFORTS AT WORK

Thanks to UNICEF's efforts in the Philippines:

- 428,000 people now have access to safe drinking water;
- A mass vaccination campaign is underway, reaching more than 30,000 children;
- 19 child-friendly spaces have been opened across the affected islands;
- 10,000 children have been provided with school and play supplies;
- Nearly 25,000 people have been provided with hygiene equipment and sanitation services.

IMMEDIATE HELP

UNICEF is part of the global response system that focused on emergency life-saving during the first few days. Having been in the Philippines since 1967, UNICEF's prepositioned supplies were critical to a quick response providing sanitation equipment to curb an outbreak of disease. At the same time, the entire UNICEF organization was mobilized and 165 emergency experts were dispatched to the most affected areas including Tacloban, Roxas City and Cebu. UNICEF's massive supply depot and division in Copenhagen also started to air lift in supplies.

CLEAN WATER

Within the first week, UNICEF helped to restore a large water treatment plant that was operating at 20 per cent capacity.

"As soon as it came on, you had 30,000 water points in Tacloban and surrounding communities operating at full capacity again," Page says. "This was important for hygiene and well-being, but you also saw kids playing and splashing at a couple of these water points. That was important, too."

HEALTH

UNICEF is a lead partner in the emergency polio and measles vaccination campaign.

"We are vaccinating 30,000 children under the age of five and providing vitamin A supplements to help boost their immunity against diseases," Page says.

IT'S EASY TO DO SOMETHING GREAT

The recovery process in the Philippines has just started. Here is how donations can help.

- $1 per day for a year ($30.42 per month) can buy exercise books for 700 children as well as pencils for a whole school.
- 75 cents per day for a year ($22.81 per month) can provide special water kits for 20 families, giving them access to safe drinking water during the rebuilding.
- 50 cents per day for a year ($15.21 per month) can safeguard 507 children from the devastating effects of measles and tetanus.
- A $50 or $100 Urgent Aid for Philippines Survival Gift will provide life-changing nutrition, education, protection and relief to the children whose needs are the most critical.

The Government of Canada will continue to match donations from Canadians to UNICEF Canada dollar for dollar, up to $100,000 per individual, up to Dec. 23. Sign up for a monthly donation before Dec. 23 and that amount will be matched.

To make a donation, please visit unicef.ca/haiyan or call 1-877-3111.

NUTRITION

UNICEF has screened about 20,000 children for nutritional deficiencies and there are still many to do, Page says. Any child found to be malnourished is enrolled in supplementary feeding programs.

SANITATION

UNICEF helped get Porta Potties to many of the evacuation centres for hygiene, well-being and dignity, Page says.

EDUCATION

With 90 per cent — more than 3,000 — of schools damaged or destroyed in the affected areas, UNICEF has helped to provide critical learning spaces for children by setting up tent schools. Returning to school is an important way to help children feel a sense of normalcy after a disaster.

CHILD PROTECTION

UNICEF helped create child-friendly spaces at different evacuation centres and supplied them with education and recreational kits. "These are safe places to be with other children playing and laughing again," Page says.

FUTURE HELP

"It will take years for the Philippines to recover and we really have to help them build back better," Page says.

Contributions over the coming months are critical to UNICEF being able to respond, he says. "And I wouldn't call them donations. They're really making an investment in the children of the Philippines."

PHILIPPINES EMERGENCY:
CHILDREN IN CRISIS

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Thanks to the generosity of the Government of Canada, any amount donated to UNICEF Canada by December 23, 2013, will be matched dollar for dollar, up to $100,000 per individual.

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- **31,000 children** have received tents, books, pencils and soccer balls.
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- A mass vaccination campaign has reached **10,000 children** in Tacloban.

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MLB

Red Sox open coffer for Napoli

The Boston Red Sox finalized their two-year deal with first baseman Mike Napoli on Thursday, bringing back one of the biggest hitters from the World Series team.

Napoli will earn $32 million through 2015.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Sailing

Canadian wins world's longest race

Canadian skipper Eric Holden guided the Henri Lloyd to its first win of the world's longest ocean race.

The 33-year-old from Vancouver and his crew won Race 5 of the 16-race Clipper Round the World Yacht Race, to maintain their first-place spot overall in what's considered the toughest global endurance challenge.

"This win has been a long time coming," said Holden, whose crew celebrated with champagne in Rushcutter Bay, Australia. "We've been the bridesmaid for the last couple of races so it's nice to do one better and win."

The race from Albany to Sydney followed a particularly brutal and dramatic Southern Ocean crossing.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

CFL

Lions promote from within for defensive coach

The B.C. Lions have named Mark Washington as their new defensive co-ordinator.

Washington has served as the Lions' secondary coach since 2008 after retiring as a player.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

NBA

"We're in the same chapter. Not on the same page."

Andre Iguodala, who is expected to sit out his 11th-straight game against the Houston Rockets on Friday night. Iguodala said he has had disagreements with Golden State Warriors trainers on how soon he can return from a hamstring injury.

Point guard plot thickens

NBA. With rumours swirling around Raptors' teardown, Vasquez arrives in Toronto

Greivis Vasquez couldn't help but be excited when he watched his new Raptors team beat the Lakers in Los Angeles last weekend.

It wasn't so much about the win, but about the way Toronto played — especially the pick-and-roll play of forwards Amir Johnson and Jonas Valanciunas.

"The first eight plays were pick and rolls. I was like 'Yes, this is heaven for me," Vasquez said. "It's going to be fun, but I don't want to say much, I just want to do it on the court."

Vasquez participated in his first practice in Toronto on Thursday since Monday's trade that sent Rudy Gay, Aaron Gray and Quincy Acy to Sacramento. The Venezuelan guard had been delayed a couple of days in New York due to visa red tape, "filing paperwork after paperwork."

Vasquez, who arrived in the deal with John Salmons, Chuck Hayes and Patrick Patterson — a foursome Vasquez referred to as the "heart of Sacramento" — sees the move as a fresh start.

"I feel like when you get traded, that team really wants something from you, and I think when they traded for me, they felt I was going to be able to help this team, and I'm very loyal to that," he said. "Maybe it's my culture, maybe it's where I'm coming from, but I'm all about Toronto Raptors now.

"I just want to play, I just want to be happy, I want to feel like I'm enjoying what I'm doing, and this opportunity is probably going to get that back for me because I was struggling in Sacramento."

The six-foot-six, 211-pound guard, runner-up last season for the NBA's most improved player, had off-season ankle surgery, and said he had a "really rough" training camp because of it.

But he's known as a decent ball distributor, which should help a team that has been woefully short on assists. The Caracas native has averaged 9.8 points, 1.9 rebounds, 5.3 assists and 25.8 minutes in 18 games with the Kings this season.

All four are expected to play Friday when the Raptors host the Philadelphia 76ers (7-16).

THE CANADIAN PRESS

More changes ahead?

Upon point guard Greivis Vasquez's arrival in Toronto, trade rumours involving Kyle Lowry started swirling, with reports claiming the New York Knicks were interested in dealing Raymond Felton for the Raptors' starting point guard.

The Raptors are rumoured to be shopping point guard Kyle Lowry especially hard since acquiring Greivis Vasquez.

HARRY HOW/GETTY IMAGES

Familiar refrain as Burke takes over Flames

Brian Burke is the Flames' acting GM. LARRY MACDOUGAL/THE CANADIAN PRESS

The Calgary Flames shook up their front office Thursday after a disappointing start to the season, firing general manager Jay Feaster and assistant general manager John Weisbrod.

The Flames have just 26 points this season, good for 13th place in the 14-team Western Conference.

Brian Burke, the team's president of hockey operations, will serve as acting general manager. He said the search for Feaster's replacement is underway.

"I have to look at the steps that have been taken and figure out what's the best way for us to get on that path (to a championship), Burke said.

"And I reached the conclusion that we needed to make this change."

Burke, who was hired by the Flames in early September, added that one of the team's priorities is to get tougher and more "truculent."

"We want black-and-blue hockey here, that's what we do in Alberta," Burke said.

Burke was fired by the Toronto Maple Leafs before the start of last season.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

Sick J's auctioned for $104K

This June 11, 1997 image shows Michael Jordan autographing his shoes from the famous 'flu' game of the 1997 NBA Finals for ball boy Preston Truman, left, after the Chicago Bulls played the Utah Jazz in Salt Lake City. Truman sold the Nike Air Jordan XII shoes through an online auction on Thursday for $104,765. Truman befriended Jordan by fetching him his favourite pre-game snack — applesauce.
GREY FLANNEL AUCTIONS/THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Jays GM extends camp invite to knuckleballer

MLB. Alex Anthopoulos willing to 'take a shot' on one-time Toronto pitcher Tomo Ohka

Nobody will ever accuse Blue Jays general manager Alex Anthopoulos of not thinking outside the box. It's inside the box he's getting beat around.

Late on Wednesday night it was learned by Torstar News Service and Sportsnet.com that former Blue Jays pitcher Tomo Ohka, who had been dabbling with the knuckleball in 2013, was going to be invited to the Jays' major-league camp as a non-roster invitee. Anthopoulos confirmed it following the Rule 5 Draft on Thursday morning. Was the GM rolling the dice? He didn't know what country Ohka pitched in this year.

Blue Jays general manager Alex Anthopoulos TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE FILE

"Minor-league deal which there's no downside to it, just take a shot," Anthopoulos shrugged. "We're just looking. The fact that we have R.A. (Dickey) here, the fact that we have Josh Thole here, the fact that we have (Mike) Nickeas here as well, why not try to take advantage of that. Bring some guys in and take a look and see where it goes. I have no idea, to be honest with you."

Dickey imported the knuckler and a Cy Young to the organization with him when he came over last year. Thole and Nickeas both had some experience catching the knuckleball with the Mets.

"Now how much success (Ohka) has, how much it works is too hard to tell," the GM continued. "But he does have some of the ingredients and he has the will to do it. Definitely the ingredients are there. When we were doing our work on R.A. just before we got him, it just seemed there were two pretty important things: having a repeatable delivery and being a good athlete. Tomo does."

Anthopoulos made another transaction at the Rule 5 Draft in taking left-hander Brian Moran, then trading him to the Angels for international cap space and some cash. TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE

NBA All-Star game

James leads early in fan voting

LeBron James is the early vote-getter for the NBA All-Star game, edging Kevin Durant.

The Miami Heat star has 609,336 votes, while the Oklahoma City's Durant trails by about 2,000 votes.
THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

LeBron James, left, and Kevin Durant are first and second, respectively, in early vote returns for the NBA All-Star game on Feb. 16. GETTY IMAGES FILE

MLB

Chamberlain added to Tigers bullpen

The Detroit Tigers accomplished another goal during their busy off-season, adding depth to their bullpen with Joba Chamberlain.

Chamberlain and the Tigers agreed to terms on a one-year contract, according to a person familiar with the negotiations. The person spoke on condition of anonymity to The Associated Press on Thursday because the deal hadn't been announced.

The hard-throwing, right-handed reliever was 2-1 with one save in 45 games and a career-high 4.93 ERA last season for the Yankees. He had a 3.85 ERA in 260 over seven seasons in New York. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Dual-sport star

"I love baseball. But football is where my first love is."

Seattle Seahawks quarterback Russell Wilson, who played minor-league baseball before becoming an NFL star, had his baseball rights acquired by the Texas Rangers on Thursday.

High-performance sport

COC makes a splash with cash to OTP

Jon Montgomery won one of Canada's 14 gold medals at the Vancouver Olympics. GETTY IMAGES

The Canadian Olympic Committee has made a record cash injection into high-performance sport.

COC president Marcel Aubut pledged $37 million Thursday to Own the Podium over the next four years.

The contribution between 2013-16 is a 48 per cent increase from the previous four years, a quadrennial that included the 2010 Vancouver Olympic Games.

The additional funding "allows us to continue to provide critical technical and financial support to athletes and national sport organizations that are poised for podium success," said Anne Merklinger, CEO of Own the Podium.

The funding will go toward summer and winter sports.

Canada won a Winter Games record 14 gold medals in Vancouver, and a total of 18 medals at the 2012 Summer Olympics in London.

The COC's goal for Sochi is to improve on the medal count from 2010, and finish at the top of the table for overall medals.

OTP determines and prioritizes funding for national sport organizations with the aim of delivering more Olympic and Paralympic medals for Canada. THE CANADIAN PRESS

Head coach of women's national team resigns

Dan Church resigned as head coach of the Canadian women's hockey team on Thursday. SEAN KILPATRICK/THE CANADIAN PRESS FILE

Hockey. Dan Church says there wasn't confidence in him leading the squad to another Olympic gold

Dan Church abruptly stepped down as head coach of the Canadian women's hockey team saying he felt others lacked confidence in his ability to win a gold medal at the Winter Olympics.

Church resigned from the job Thursday less than two months before the opening ceremonies of the Winter Games in Sochi, Russia.

"If there isn't confidence in what I'm doing, I need to step aside and let the team move on," Church told The Canadian Press in a phone interview. "I'm heartbroken, to be honest, about the whole situation."

He did not specify whether it was players or Hockey Canada management who questioned his competence.

"Just discussions I'd had over the last few days made that apparent, in some meetings I'd had with leadership," Church said. "I think it was just difference of opinion on the direction we were headed.

"In the end, I just decided if I'm getting in the way of where the team needs to go, I need to step aside and let them continue on in the process."

The move was a bombshell as the 21-player Olympic team was expected to be announced before the end of December. The Canadian women will attempt to win a fourth straight gold medal in Sochi after victories in 2002, 2006 and 2010.

Canada is coming off a loss in the final of this year's world championship to the U.S. THE CANADIAN PRESS

Soccer. Toronto native named Canada's male player of the year

Portland Timbers captain Will Johnson capped off a career year Thursday by being named Canada's male soccer player of the year.

The Toronto-born midfielder was voted to the MLS All-Star Fan XI team and named to the Major League Soccer Best XI after leading the Timbers to a first-place finish in MLS's Western Conference with a 14-5-15 record.

In his first year in the Pacific Northwest after five seasons with Real Salt Lake, the 26-year-old set MLS career marks in goals (nine), assists (five), points (23) and minutes played (5,250). He played the full 90 minutes in all 28 regular-season appearances.

He is the 14th winner of the award and the third from MLS ranks, following Dwayne De Rosario and Pat Onstad. THE CANADIAN PRESS

Will Johnson

DON RYAN/THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Revival

A baseball team in Montreal is feasible: Study

Former Montreal Expo Warren Cromartie is just waiting for the right investors — or "power hitters" as he puts it — to step up to the plate in the city and hit one out of the park.

"There are two things in baseball that never change: history and numbers," said Cromartie, who is spearheading a drive for Montreal to get a Major League Baseball team.

"Montreal, we have the history for baseball in this town. We have the numbers now. The numbers don't lie. It's an amazing day."

The reason for Cromartie's unbridled enthusiasm at a news conference Thursday was an Ernst & Young feasibility study that suggests baseball could thrive in Montreal if the city had a new stadium.

The study said the project would cost just over $1 billion — $500 million for the facility and $525 million for the franchise. THE CANADIAN PRESS

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2014 Best Employers in Canada By Aon Hewitt

There was a mistake in our December 11 & 12, 2013 ads that appeared in the Metro Toronto. The correct number and distribution of prizes in the short form contest rules is as follows:

There is a total of 6586 prizes available to be won with 922 prizes available to be won in Quebec; 3168 in Ontario; 1307 in Alberta; 1189 in Vancouver and 1 prize nationally.

HOLT RENFREW

Bills point finger at unfair scheduling

Against the refreshed.
The Bills are 2-3 against teams who've had long rests this season

Bills wide receiver Stevie Johnson
RICK STEWART/GETTY IMAGES

The Bills aren't impressed with the NFL schedule-maker, who is being blamed for providing Buffalo's opponents with too many breaks — the extended kind.

The Bills' slate this season has them facing a league-high six teams coming off either bye weeks or nine-day layoffs. That includes the New York Jets twice, as well as Buffalo's opponent on Sunday: Jacksonville (4-9) has been off since Dec. 5.

Coach Doug Marrone called that a disadvantage because "the one thing that helps you the most is rest."

Bills president Russ Brandon has expressed his concerns to the NFL.

"We certainly have talked to the league about this because it's a little bit disappointing," Brandon said during his weekly radio show on Buffalo's WGR-AM last month.

The Bills couldn't even entirely take advantage of their own bye week on Nov. 24.

They returned the following week to face Atlanta, which was coming off a nine-day rest. And the warm-weather Falcons, who won 34-31 in overtime, also benefited from getting to play indoors in the Bills' annual "home" game in Toronto, and avoid the wintry conditions at Buffalo.

The Bills (4-9) are 2-3 so far in games against teams that have enjoyed extended rests. And they were 1-3 last year, the first season in which the NFL instituted a rule to have each of its 32 teams play on Thursday.

The overall NFL results, however, have been mixed, failing to entirely support the Bills' claim of the more rested opponent getting an edge. Since the start of 2012, teams facing rested opponents have gone a combined 62-64-2, according to STATS.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

NHL

EASTERN CONFERENCE

ATLANTIC DIVISION

	GP	W	L	OL	GF	GA	Pt
Boston	31	21	8	2	86	62	44
Montreal	32	19	10	3	85	71	41
Detroit	32	15	9	8	87	85	38
Tampa Bay	30	17	10	3	85	76	37
Toronto	32	16	13	3	87	90	35
Ottawa	32	12	14	6	92	105	30
Florida	32	10	17	5	73	106	25
Buffalo	31	7	22	2	53	92	16

METROPOLITAN DIVISION

	GP	W	L	OL	GF	GA	Pt
Pittsburgh	32	21	10	1	98	71	43
Washington	31	17	12	2	98	90	36
Carolina	32	13	13	6	75	91	32
NY Rangers	32	15	16	1	70	84	31
New Jersey	32	12	14	6	73	82	30
Columbus	31	13	15	3	78	86	29
Philadelphia	31	13	15	3	70	85	29
NY Islanders	32	9	18	5	80	111	23

Thursday's results
Montreal at Philadelphia
Columbus at NY Rangers
Buffalo at Ottawa
Detroit at Tampa Bay
Toronto at St. Louis
Dallas at Nashville
Colorado at Winnipeg
Carolina at Calgary
NY Islanders at Phoenix
Boston at Edmonton
Minnesota at San Jose

Wednesday's results
Los Angeles 3 Toronto 1
Chicago 7 Philadelphia 2
Anaheim 2 Minnesota 1

WESTERN CONFERENCE

CENTRAL DIVISION

	GP	W	L	OL	GF	GA	Pt
Chicago	34	23	6	5	129	93	51
St. Louis	29	20	6	3	100	67	43
Minnesota	33	18	10	5	78	77	41
Colorado	29	20	9	0	83	68	40
Dallas	29	14	10	5	83	86	33
Winnipeg	32	14	14	4	83	90	32
Nashville	31	14	14	3	71	89	31

PACIFIC DIVISION

	GP	W	L	OL	GF	GA	Pt
Anaheim	34	22	7	5	108	87	49
Los Angeles	32	21	7	4	88	63	46
San Jose	31	19	6	6	103	78	44
Vancouver	33	18	10	5	88	81	41
Phoenix	30	17	8	5	97	94	39
Calgary	30	11	15	4	79	100	26
Edmonton	32	11	18	3	89	109	25

Note: Two points for a win, one point for overtime loss.

Friday's games
All Times Eastern
New Jersey at Pittsburgh, 7 p.m.
Washington at Florida, 7:30 p.m.
Edmonton at Vancouver, 9 p.m.

Saturday's games
Calgary at Buffalo, 2 p.m.
Los Angeles at Ottawa, 2 p.m.
Dallas at Winnipeg, 3 p.m.
Chicago at Toronto, 7 p.m.
St. Louis at Columbus, 7 p.m.
Pittsburgh at Detroit, 7 p.m.
Tampa Bay at New Jersey, 7 p.m.
Montreal at NY Islanders, 7 p.m.
Carolina at Phoenix, 8 p.m.
San Jose at Nashville, 8 p.m.
Minnesota at Colorado, 9 p.m.
Boston at Vancouver, 10 p.m.

SCORING LEADERS

	G	A	Pts
Crosby, Pgh	16	27	43
Kane, Chi	17	25	42
Getzlaf, Ana	16	22	38
Malkin, Pgh	8	30	38
Perry, Ana	21	15	36
Tavares, NYI	12	24	36
Ovechkin, Wash	26	9	35
Steen, StL	21	12	33
Sharp, Chi	15	17	32
Backstrom, Wash	7	25	32
Thornton, SJ	5	27	32
Kunitz, Pgh	17	14	31
Kessel, Tor	16	14	30
Marleau, SJ	14	16	30
St. Louis, TBL	13	17	30
Zetterberg, Det	11	19	30
Couture, SJ	10	20	30
Toews, Chi	13	16	29

Not including last night's games

NBA

EASTERN CONFERENCE

	W	L	Pct	GB
d-Indiana	19	3	.864	—
d-Miami	16	6	.727	3
Atlanta	11	11	.500	8
d-Boston	10	14	.417	10
Charlotte	10	12	.455	9
Washington	9	11	.450	9
Detroit	10	13	.435	9½
Chicago	8	12	.400	10
Cleveland	8	13	.381	10½
Toronto	7	13	.350	11
Brooklyn	7	14	.333	11½
Orlando	7	15	.318	12
Philadelphia	7	16	.304	12½
New York	6	15	.286	12½
Milwaukee	5	17	.227	14

WESTERN CONFERENCE

	W	L	Pct	GB
d-Portland	18	4	.818	—
Oklahoma City	17	4	.810	½
d-San Antonio	17	4	.810	½
d-L.A. Clippers	15	8	.652	3½
Houston	15	7	.682	3
Denver	13	8	.619	4½
Phoenix	12	9	.571	5½
Golden State	13	10	.565	5½
Dallas	13	10	.565	5½
Minnesota	11	11	.500	7
New Orleans	10	10	.500	7
Memphis	10	11	.476	7½
L.A. Lakers	10	11	.476	7½
Sacramento	6	14	.300	11
Utah	5	19	.208	14

x - clinched playoff berth; y - division; z - conference.

Thursday's results
L.A. Clippers at Brooklyn
Houston at Portland

Wednesday's results
Orlando 92 Charlotte 83
L.A. Clippers 96 Boston 88
San Antonio 109 Milwaukee 77
New Orleans 111 Detroit 106 OT
Minnesota 106 Philadelphia 99
New York 83 Chicago 78
Oklahoma City 116 Memphis 100
Utah 122 Sacramento 101
Golden State 95 Dallas 93

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MODEL CODE: G4TL84-AA00
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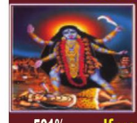
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Horoscopes

♈ Aries
March 21 - April 20
A decision you made a long time ago doesn't seem like a great idea now but you're stuck with it. Make the best of the situation and promise yourself you won't be so hasty in future.

♉ Taurus
April 21 - May 21
Expect your workload to increase a lot over the next 24 hours. That may not sound like good news but at least it shows that important people trust you to get the job done.

♊ Gemini
May 22 - June 21
It may seem to others that you never lack confidence but that's not true and as the Sun moves through your opposite sign there will be times of self-doubt. Bite back — hard.

♋ Cancer
June 22 - July 23
You will get what you deserve today: no more and no less. Jupiter in your sign links with Saturn in a way that guarantees you get out of life in direct proportion to what you've put in. And you've put in a lot.

♌ Leo
July 24 - Aug. 23
You may have to do something that makes you unpopular today but that won't worry you. You know there are times when you have to put duty before pleasure and this is clearly one of them. Do it well.

♍ Virgo
Aug. 24 - Sept. 23
Saturn may be casting a cloud over money matters but you can still have fun. Besides, if you keep a tight hold of the purse strings now you will have more to spend over the holiday period and party season.

♎ Libra
Sept. 24 - Oct. 23
Don't over-extend yourself at work or your energy may take a nose-dive early next week. Today's Jupiter-Saturn link will help you to persuade others to do things for you.

♏ Scorpio
Oct. 24 - Nov. 22
According to the planets you will do better, both financially and emotionally, if you open up and let friends and family members know how you feel and what it is you need.

♐ Sagittarius
Nov. 23 - Dec. 21
Why is it that people are so demanding? Most likely it's because they know you are too nice to say "no". At some stage today you need to get tough and let certain people know they have to do more.

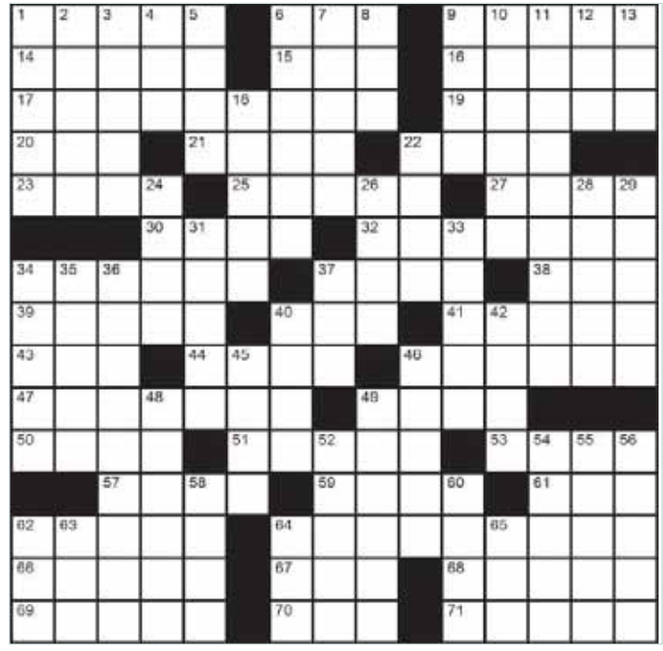
♑ Capricorn
Dec. 22 - Jan. 20
Your frustration may get the better of you and you will say or do something that gets you noticed for the wrong reason. At least others will be aware that you're not afraid to hit back at provocation.

♒ Aquarius
Jan. 21 - Feb. 19
Accept that you won't get things your way all the time, especially at work where some people seem to take a delight in being unreasonable. It's only a passing phase.

♓ Pisces
Feb. 20 - March 20
Jupiter and Saturn link across the most favourable angles of your chart today and the most likely outcome is that you will be rewarded for services you have done for others in the past. SALLY BROMPTON

Crossword: Canada Across and Down

See today's answers at metronews.ca/answers.
BY KELLY ANN BUCHANAN



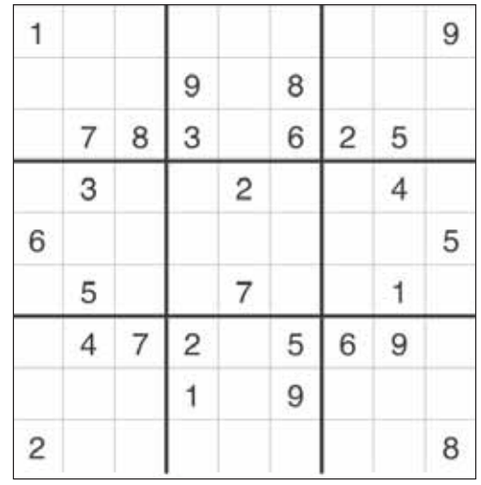
Across
1. "The Hobbit: The Desolation of __" (2013)
6. Pea's packaging
9. Fearing-one's suffix
14. UNESCO World Heritage Site in Jordan
15. "Do They Know It's Christmas?" co-songwriter Midge
16. Cad
17. Guy __, Cirque du Soleil founder
19. Articulate
20. 'Can' completer
21. Additional
22. Title for a Miss, in Spanish [abbr.]
23. D'Urbervilles heroine
25. Dog collar attachment
27. Man, in Milan
30. Ski lift
32. Hair-off-the-face styles: 2 wds.
34. "Brian's Song" (1971) role, Gale __
37. Insect stage
38. Bronze Roman money
39. Sidekick
40. Paper product
41. "Spider-Man" (2002) director Sam
43. Televise
44. "__ Flux" (2005)
46. President of France's residence, __ Palace
47. Wayne Gretzky team, e.g.: 2 wds.
49. Actress Jessica
50. Stamps spots, shortly
51. "The Sound of Music" (1965) role
53. Rhyming pattern
57. Doctrines
59. Small salmon
61. Kick __ _ fuss
62. Once in _ __ moon
64. BC city
66. "A Madea Christmas" (2013) star Mr. Perry
67. Li'l cartoon 'Devil'
68. Canonical hour
69. Moose, if done how Goose gets pluralized
70. 'Prop' suffix (Fuel)
71. Japan: Global Warming treaty city

Down
1. Water-balloon-to-ground sound
2. "Morning Express with Robin __" on HLN
3. Rand McNally product
4. William Tell's canton
5. Mr. Kaplan
6. Ship's accountant
7. "Coffee __ __?"
8. Billy __ Williams
9. Not singular [abbr.]
10. "The Bachelor" date site: 2 wds.
11. Region of Quebec near Ottawa
12. Mad Cow Disease letters
13. 'Ballad' suffix
18. Ms. Fitzgerald's
22. Store
24. British WWII submachine gun
26. __ earring
28. Boeotian Muse of memory
29. Actor Mr. Davis
31. Actor Mr. Cranston
33. "I speak French." = "Je __ francais."
34. Weighing need
35. 'Parliament' suffix
36. Stylish area of Toronto
37. Criticize
40. Model
42. The Clan of the Cave Bear heroine
45. Breakfast breakees
46. After __ (Mints)
48. Topics
49. Sculpture material
52. Body of water
54. "Thanks, __ __ thanks!"
55. "You're _ __ and don't even know it!"
56. Nova Scotia's Straight of __
58. Slight
60. Sty cry
62. 24 hr. banker
63. "Farewell."
64. School org.
65. Demure

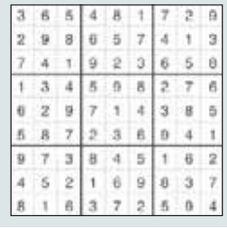
Yesterday's Crossword

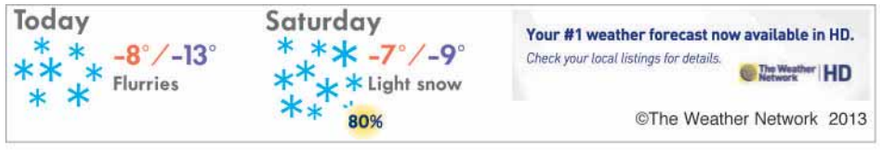
Sudoku

How to play
Fill in the grid, so that every row, every column and every 3x3 box contains the digits 1-9. There is no math involved.



Yesterday's Sudoku





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Kelly Clarkson

Wrapped In Red

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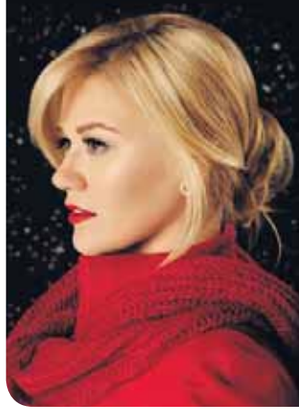

The holiday album features brand new instant-classics such as the first single, "Underneath The Tree" and title track, "Wrapped In Red" as well as Christmas favourites, "Have Yourself A Merry Little Christmas," "Blue Christmas," "Run Run Rudolph," "Please Come Home For Christmas" and many more!

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